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## Britain and US face isolation in Security Council battle

# France leads SA sanctions campaign

From Paul Webster in Paris

France yesterday launched an international campaign to organise economic and diplomatic sanctions against South Africa, and to call for a resolution in the United Nations Security Council to ban French investment and recalling its ambassador from Pretoria.

Black leaders go into hiding, page 8

With the French now giving a Western lead to the African and other Third World nations who want swift and effective action, the stage is now set for a confrontation in the United Nations Security Council which meets today, at French request, to discuss "precise sanctions" against the Botha Government.

The French Ambassador to UN, Mr Claude Estier, said after consultations with the 15-nation body that it welcomed France's initiative but there was no response

from the United States and British representatives.

The US and British governments oppose sanctions against South Africa and either could veto a resolution calling for such measures.

South Africa's President, P. W. Botha, said he was surprised by France's announcement. He said the Government "cannot let itself be persuaded to about what it is in the best interests of the people of South Africa."

French policy was decided at a Cabinet meeting yesterday when the Prime Minister, Mr Laurent Fabius, personally announced the measures which he has been pressing for since May. But the Government was also responding to pressure by the Socialists and the Communists who also called for strong French reaction to apartheid in South Africa.

The Cabinet put aside other urgent business after disappointment at what was described as the "weakness" of a joint Common Market response during a foreign ministers' meeting in Brussels on Monday.

The decision to go directly to the Security Council is seen as an attempt to bypass lack of co-operation in Europe, particularly from Britain and West Germany, in drawing up a powerful international economic sanctions regime.

Just before Mr Fabius's announcement, the Communist Party leader, Mr Georges Marchais, and a Socialist leader, Mr Claude Estier, called on the Government to take swift action after separate meetings by the two parties' management.

The French decision is a return to the earliest foreign policy priority of the Socialist administration when the former Foreign Minister, Mr Claude Cheysson, promised eventual sanctions against South Africa in his first public speech in May 1981.

Since then the party has

## Clubs welcome Popplewell despite risks

By Paul Keel and Malcolm Pitters

A HIGH Court judge's proposals for improving safety at football grounds and combating violence were greeted with general approval by the football authorities yesterday, even though some of the recommendations could signal the end for smaller clubs in England and Wales.

In his interim report, published yesterday, Mr Justice Popplewell, who was appointed by the Government to chair an inquiry into the Bradford City fire tragedy and the serious disorder at Birmingham City's ground on the last Saturday of the League season called for much stricter safety regula-

tions and for increased police powers.

The report was produced so that its recommendations could be implemented before the start of the new season next month. It said that the Bradford tragedy on May 11 in which 56 people died could have been avoided if existing safety guidelines had been adhered to.

The trouble at Birmingham in which a 15-year-old youth died was caused by drunken visiting supporters who provoked violence from home supporters.

Mr Justice Popplewell said he recognised that additional safety requirements would sound "the death knell" for some sports grounds but said

he had to put the interests of the public first.

While his proposals for improving crowd control would not provide a total solution to soccer violence, the present situation of the game

Leader comment, page 12; Away ban page 2; Grandstand showdown, page 19; The positive side, page 26

in England and Wales could not be allowed to continue.

He said that all sports grounds should be brought under existing legislation which required the larger clubs to meet minimum safety standards. The proposal would affect any

ground capable of holding more than 5,000 spectators.

On the crowd control front, he wanted a membership system to prevent visiting supporters from entering other grounds.

Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary said in the Commons that the Government strongly supported the scheme for membership cards and he urged the Football Association and the Football League to take heed of the recommendations.

He also welcomed the proposals for closed circuit television monitoring of football crowds and making it an offence to hurl missiles and smoke bombs inside football grounds.

The Government would also consider the report's call for changes in fire regulations, for the police to have additional powers of search and arrest, and for the chanting of obscene or racist abuse at football grounds to be made an offence.

He reminded MPs that the Government had initiated a ban on the sale of alcohol at English and Welsh football clubs and the inspections of grounds by fire authorities.

"There is no single, simple method of making sports grounds safe and free from violence, but I believe that the steps taken over the past few months, coupled with the implementation of

the important recommendations of Mr Justice Popplewell's inquiry, have already made and will make a significant contribution towards preserving football as a major spectator sport."

Mr Stafford Heginbotham, the Bradford City chairman, said the club could have done more to prevent the disaster. The judge's report was excellent and fair and was not a condemnation of the club.

Mr Justice Popplewell observed that a guide published by the Home Office in 1976 warned against the dangers of combustible material accumulating beneath stands where lighted matches or

Turn to back page, col. 4



THE GOOD SHIP GREENPEACE: Captain John Castle on board the 191-foot and 1,000-ton new ship for the environmental group Greenpeace. The ocean-going tug, which will be used for an Antarctic expedition, was named Greenpeace last night by Sir Peter Scott at Greenwich, London. Picture by Graham Turner

## CBI fear One-off claimants lose of growth independent appeal fall-off

By Michael Smith, Industrial Editor

The first clear signs of a halt to Britain's economic recovery are beginning to emerge within industry.

Worries about a fall-off in business activity surfaced yesterday at the employers' organisation, the Confederation of British Industry, and were promptly confirmed by the Association of British Chambers of Commerce (ABCC) with news that the export boom is fast fizzling out.

The CBI director-general Sir Terence Beckett said his nationwide membership of over 1,800 firms was worried about the coming six months. "We believe we have been seeing the first indications of the recovery levelling off," he said.

Sir Terence was speaking in Northamptonshire ahead of next week's publication of the CBI's traditionally authoritative survey of industrial trends, which is likely to provide the most comprehensive evidence so far that activity is slowing down.

The ABCC said yesterday that the high exchange rate and interest rates were taking their toll of export orders. The association, representing some 450,000 people, said that optimism among businessmen was now far more subdued, with firms in most regions throughout the UK reporting a significant decline in both export orders and deliveries.

Export orders among firms in Greater Manchester have fallen by 40 per cent in the past three months, by 35 per cent in Merseyside and 18 per cent in the West Midlands.

The CBI and the ABCC are using the evidence of fresh industrial decline to press the case for lower interest rates and Sir Terence has probably further widened the rift between industry and government by attacking the "bunker mentality".

The right of appeal for people refused one-off emergency payments under the Government's new social fund will be abolished, according to a confidential document prepared by senior civil servants at the Department of Health.

The document, which has been passed to the Guardian, shows that local managers will deal with dissatisfied customers, and the watchdog Social Security Advisory Committee will be kept at bay.

The social fund, outlined in the green paper on the welfare state which replaced the £200 million spent last year on single payments for people urgently in need, maternity grants and death grants.

It will be subject to an annual cost limit, yet to be set. Most of the payments will be loans rather than grants including those to 300,000 people unable to meet fuel bills and applicants will be subjected to a severe means test.

At present, people dissatisfied with the decisions of social security officers have

the right to appeal to an independent tribunal and the social security commissioners before giving their case to the courts. There are a large number of appeals, says the document, and some 20 per cent are against decisions over single payments.

Under the social fund that right of appeal will be abolished and dissatisfied custom-

ers will be dealt with by social security officers.

"Applicants will not have the right to appeal against a decision to an independent tribunal," says the document.

It goes on to say that there are pragmatic reasons for giving claimants a means to question decisions. "We wish to avoid a situation where the applicant tells the reasonably of the decisions routinely through the courts. We will therefore need to have to set in place reasonable procedures for management review."

Appeals should be dealt with

by local officers but "we might come under pressure from operating a further, second-tier level of review." In that case, a regional officers might be appointed to deal with reviews.

"It appears sensible to avoid involving staff from headquarters... it would be costly to administer and it encourages the channelling of dissatisfaction up to national level as quickly as possible with implications for further ministerial involvement."

"Ministers will wish to avoid being dragged in routinely to individual cases Ministers might therefore adopt the stance that they are not to be seen as a further channel of review of individual cases."

The social fund budget should be distributed between local offices with a contingency fund in case an office ran out of money before the end of the year. "If a payment were refused solely because of lack of money, there could be allegations of maladministration." The DESS would probably hold a secret "back pocket" reserve

No right to rehousing, page 2

Loss reduced  
BRITISH Shipbuilders announced a cut in losses last year to £26 million from £195 million but the future remained bleak. Page 22.

Levene breach  
THE appointment of Mr Peter Levene as the head of government's arms purchasing agency was a breach of principle, a Commons Select Committee said. Page 4.

Rubber soul  
A WORLD where fashion meets fetish in rubber is being marketed by Guardian Women. Page 10.

Lawrence doubt  
DAVID Lawrence, the new fast bowling bowler, took three wickets for Gloucestershire against the Australians without suggesting that he is ready for Test duty. Page 26.

French austerity  
FRANCE faces an austerity budget after the socialist government's decision to fight the next general election on its economic record. Page 6.

INSIDE  
Arts, reviews ..... 20, 21  
Books ..... 11  
Business & finance ..... 22-25  
Crosswords ..... 26, 27  
Futures ..... 13-18  
Guardian Women ..... 10  
Home News ..... 2-4, 30  
Letters ..... 12  
Overseas News ..... 6, 8  
Parliament ..... 5  
Sports News ..... 26-27  
TV & RADIO ..... 28  
ENTERTAINMENTS ..... 28  
PERSONAL ..... 29

The weather  
CLOUDY with showers. Details, back page

## Belgrano's sinking splits MPs

By Richard Norton-Taylor

The Commons foreign affairs committee yesterday split on party lines and after a year's work came to a bitterly divided conclusion about whether the sinking of the Argentine cruiser, the General Belgrano, during the Falklands conflict was justified.

The Conservative majority says the war cabinet's decision to authorise the sinking was militarily justified in what it describes as "a primarily military response to the perceived military threat at the time." They pour scorn on allegations that it was an attempt to thwart two separate peace

## 3 sewage workers shot dead

By Anne McHardy

THREE Glasgow sewage workers were shot dead and left in their burning office yesterday in what a police spokesman described as a "pretty messy and horrific killing." Detective Chief Inspector Alex Cowie described the killer as "dangerous and deranged."

The murders were discovered yesterday morning by a tanker driver who arrived soon after the attack at the Clydebridge sewage works at Bothwell, near Glasgow. He saw three dead men lying in the kitchen area. When he broke a window the smell was too awful for him to go in.

The firemen he called found the bodies of 35-year-old Mr William Burns of Cambuslang, Mr William McIntosh, aged 56, of Hamilton and Mr Alex Sexton, aged 42, of Wilshaw. Mr Sexton was divorced, the other two married. Mr Burns leaves three children.

Mr Cowie, of Strathclyde police, said that Mr Sexton's blue Daimler car, registration number SRS 895W, had been stolen. Armed police were standing by in case it was sighted. "Do not approach this vehicle or its occupants. It would be dangerous. This man is dangerous."

Mr Cowie said that the police were desperate to establish a motive and to catch the killer or killers. He said that a fourth man worked in the sewage plant and was on holiday. He had been ruled out as a suspect.

The police set up road blocks in the area and began door-to-door searches for witnesses who might have seen the killer. Mr Cowie said that the fire might have been a decoy.

## Private line to tourists' Thames

By John Ardill, Environmental Correspondent

A vision of riparian splendour to cater for London's visitors was offered yesterday by Thames Water Authority.

It sees the authority and entrepreneurs spending millions of pounds on such tourist delights as restaurants perched on refurbished piers, water buses and pleasure boats.

The idea, disclosed yesterday by the authority's chairman Mr Roy Watts, and its marketing manager, Mr John Case, is not unconnected with their desire to see Thames Water privatised and flourishing

They are already aggressively selling the authority's expertise around the globe, with contracts placed from Korea to Peru. It may be lending a profitable hand to the Ganges and the Hudson.

The Thames Water already provides the upstream locks and navigation facilities. Its chance to do something new in tidal waters comes next year when it acquires the Greater London Council's nine piers.

Some are likely to be demolished and replaced, others restored and extended, perhaps as two-storey structures with restaurants and similar tourist attractions above covered pas-

senger facilities for fast river-bus services. A £6 million facility for Westminster pier could set the pace.

The docklands Stalport, which Mr Watts likes to call London's third airport ahead of Stansted, will bring short take-off and landing aircraft to Thameside within the next couple of years and provide "the biggest catalyst for change on the river this century."

Visitors arriving by air, he enthuses, would love to travel into town on the river, which scarcely features on current tourist itineraries. There is a feeling, Mr Case says, that

London is backward in exploiting its river.

Thames Water's appetite for turning water into money knows no bounds. It has a scheme with Coopers Lybrand to develop and sell information systems to other water authorities, and one with Taylor Woodrow to market sewage sludge to horticulturalists.

Cheekily, it is putting in a joint bid with a contractor at Peterborough for Anglian Water, which is looking to the private sector because it cannot fund the project within its government-imposed limits. "The world," says Mr Watts, "is our oyster."

## Top pay revolt seen as warning to Thatcher

By John Carvel and Colin Brown

Tory backbenchers were yesterday convinced that the rebellion on top people's pay awards, which cut the Government's majority to 17 marked a watershed in Mrs Thatcher's leadership of the Conservative Party.

The Government sought to dismiss the revolt as a bout of end-of-term boisterousness with only two days to the summer recess, but the backbenchers

Leader comment, page 12; Politics, page 5; Hugo Young, page 19



"You can come in as long as you're quiet. Daddy will have gone up to bed ages ago — he's a Labour MP, you know."

They will now be looking to Mrs Thatcher to demonstrate that she is more prepared to listen to the opinions of her party's loyal supporters and will not repeat her attempts to drive through unpopular policies by using her 140 majority.

The Government, however, is determined to go ahead with the awards.

The Chief Whip, Mr John Wakeham, and other Government whips carried out a post-mortem on the rebellion, which delivered a shattering and possibly lasting blow to the Government's confidence.

The Labour whips are understood to have authorised the absence of 30 of the 47 MPs who did not vote but — the figure which made up the government's majority — were absent without leave. The whips have written to them demanding an explanation.

Labour launched another protest during yesterday's summer recess debate but was defeated by 311 to 172, a government majority of 139.

Downing Street sources were anxious to point out that, in Mrs Thatcher's view, a majority of 17 was enough. But there is no doubt about the fright which her Government received.

Mr Wakeham had privately warned her before the division at 1.57 am yesterday that the Government could be defeated. According to his figures, the rebels, combined with the Opposition, were sufficient to humiliate the Government over the symbolic danger of being defeated and the danger that would do to the party.

Some Tory MPs were claiming to have been misled by the rebels.

Turn to back page, col. 1

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## Medical organisations claim 'compelling' case for reduction

# Clarke urged to cut abortion limit to 24 weeks

By Andrew Welch, Medical Correspondent

The 28-week upper limit for abortions is neither realistic nor ethically acceptable, the Health Minister, Mr Kenneth Clarke, has been told by representatives of five medical organisations. The case for a reduction is compelling and the new limit should be 24 weeks, says the group in a confidential report.

Nearly half the premature babies born at 24-27 weeks and treated at the leading intensive care units survived for at least a month, the group reports. Yet they could have been legally aborted.

But some doctors are opposing a lower limit on the grounds that hundreds of women who most need terminations will be denied them because of NHS bureaucracy and delays in diagnosing fetal defects.

The confidential report, Fetal Viability and Clinical Practice, a copy of which has been passed to the Guardian, represents the agreed views of the British Medical Association, the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, the British Paediatric Association, the Royal College of General Practitioners, and the Royal College of Midwives.

The anti-abortion group Life is urging MPs to press for an upper limit of 20 weeks to take account of future advances in technology and because of the mental and physical damage caused by late abortions.

The 28-week figure (196 days from the beginning of the mother's last menstrual period) is specified in the Infant Life Preservation Act.

The group, headed by Professor Richard Beard, professor of obstetrics and gynaecology at St Mary's Hospital, London, says that doctors have interpreted this as the stage of pregnancy below which a baby has little chance of survival.

They say: "This seems no longer tenable now that the prognosis for the premature baby is much improved. In other words, 28 weeks appears

no longer to be a realistic or ethically acceptable criterion. Reasons for a change in the law are even more compelling than they were 11 years ago when the present limit was recommended. Late committee recommended a reduction to 24 weeks, they say.

The group's survey of 595 babies born at less than 28 weeks in intensive care units shows that nearly half those born at 24-27 weeks survived for at least 28 days. Only 16 per cent of the 24-week babies survived. Babies born at 23 weeks have been reported to have survived.

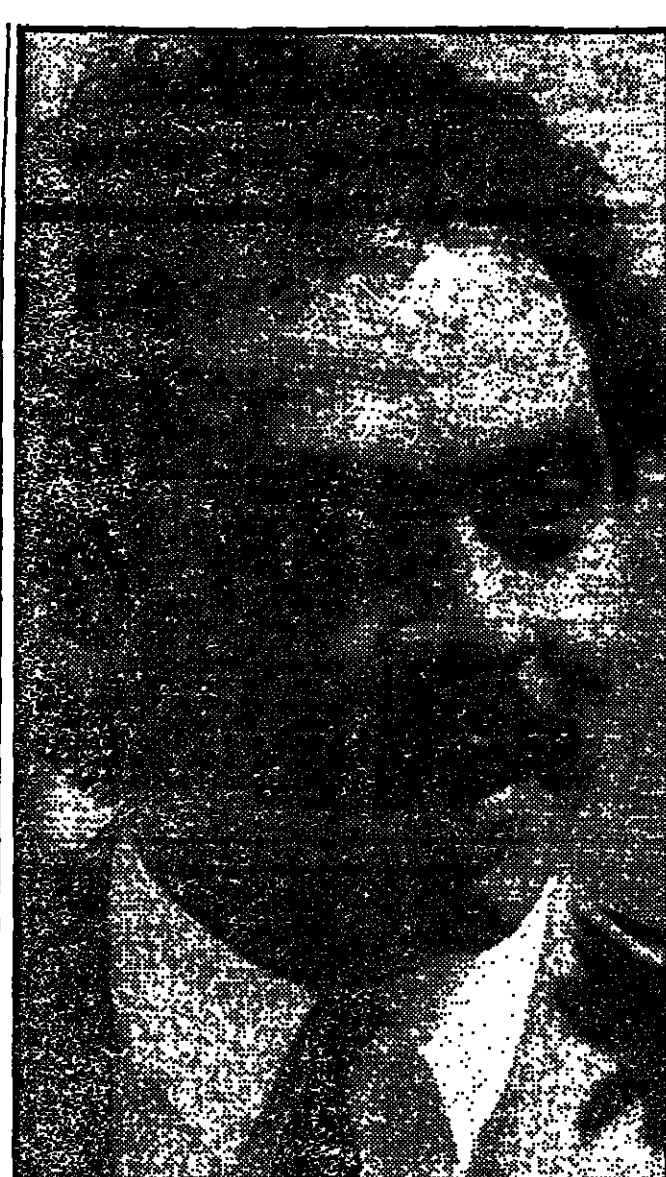
They chose a 24-week limit because it represents a balance between conflicting interests. It does not include every baby which could be saved, but it can be regarded "as a limit below which survival is unlikely and above which it is probable."

Nearly 200 women a year are given abortions after 24 weeks of pregnancy. That is less than 1 per cent of the total abortions on women resident in England and Wales, but it includes mothers whose babies are malformed, girls who delay coming forward because they fear their parents' reaction, and women caught up in NHS bureaucracy.

The group found that 4.7 per cent of abortions for malformations were performed at 24 weeks or later. These included babies with no brain, and others suffering from spina bifida. A limit lower than 24 weeks would interfere with attempts to reduce the number of babies born with severe malformations, the group says.

Young girls and mothers with malformed babies would suffer if the limit was lowered, said Mrs Wendy Savage, consultant obstetrician and spokeswoman for Doctors for a Woman's Choice on Abortion.

"We need to make it easier for women to obtain terminations. That would get rid of a lot of the ones performed after 20 weeks. I won't perform a termination below 26 weeks if we bring the limit down to 24 weeks many doctors won't operate beyond 22 weeks," she added.



Prince Mashour in London yesterday

## Prince in London

By Paul Brown

THE SAUDI prince accused of drug offences, who was alleged to have fed the security apparatus outside the London home of his brother yesterday and said he would be reporting to police today as required and appearing on remand before Magistrate Magistrate.

At the Home Office, Mr David Mellor, minister responsible for the campaign against hard drugs, was considerably embarrassed about having commented on the prince's alleged disappearance without consulting the report.

Prince Mashour bin Saud Abdul Aziz, aged 31, is charged with conspiring to

supply cocaine and after two weeks in jail was granted bail on Monday in the sum of £150,000.

Standing with him outside his brother's house in Lanes Close, Chelsea, London, yesterday was Sir Adnan Al Mandour, the Saudi Arabian vice-consul, who stood £50,000 of the prince's bail.

The story that the prince had fled apparently came in a tip to a member of national newspaper. The story seemed to gain substance during the evening and Mr Mellor was reported to be "hopping mad" that the prince had left the country.

The Home Office said yesterday that Mr Mashour was now "calmer and wiser."

## Swiss move to extradite gaoled cup man

A British soccer fan sentenced to one year in a Belgian prison for robbery could be extradited to Switzerland for questioning by the police even if his appeal against his sentence, which started yesterday, is successful.

John Michael Ellis, aged 19, unemployed, of Wilbraham Crescent, Liverpool, is being sought by the Swiss police for questioning in connection with the robbery in Leuven in July last year of an £86,000 necklace.

The public prosecutor in Brussels said yesterday that the Swiss had made formal approaches for Ellis to be handed over.

He was sentenced two weeks ago after £12 had been stolen from a dog stand inside the Heysel Stadium in Brussels on the night of the European cup final.

In his appeal Ellis claimed that he was close to the dog stand when the incident occurred but again denied the robbery.

Although no eyewitnesses have been able to confirm the prosecution charge that Ellis stole the £12, the Brussels public prosecutor pressed for a minimum sentence of six months.

He said Ellis bore "moral responsibility" for the disaster which occurred later because he had added to the tense atmosphere inside the stadium.

A ruling is expected on August 1.

Shortly before he was led away handcuffed, Ellis told the court: "I have been in prison for two months now. I am totally innocent. I am disgusted with the way the Belgian authorities have treated me."

After the hearing Ellis's father, John, aged 40, claimed that his son and five other Liverpool supporters in custody were being held responsible in the shadow of the tragedy. He said a "Nathan case" would have been long out of custody.

Ellis's lawyer, Marc van Roy, backed that opinion, saying: "If he were Belgian I don't think he would still be in jail after two months. There would have been an inquiry much earlier."

## Call to ban visiting fans

Paul Keel outlines the recommendations of Mr Justice Popplewell's interim report on crowd safety at the country's sports grounds

ALL sports grounds should be brought under safety regulations and all visiting supporters should be excluded from football stadiums according to Mr Justice Popplewell in his interim report on crowd safety and control at sports grounds.

In the report published yesterday to give football clubs time to improve safety before the start of the new season next month — the judge makes 24 recommendations and eight provisional recommendations which he will review when the final report appears later this year.

On the question of safety, the judge says that he is not concerned with appointing blame but with learning lessons. Nevertheless, he says, that the tragedy at Bradford City's football ground which resulted in the deaths of 56 people could have been avoided if existing safety guidelines had been observed.

The document on safety, published by the Home Office in 1976 and known as the Green Guide, recognised

that all of them, whatever their size, under the Safety of Sports Grounds Act 1975, should be brought under existing regulations. Wooden stands of the type involved in the Bradford fire were found not only at cricket grounds but also at rugby league and rugby union grounds, the judge observes.

The Government had already indicated that it would designate Third and Fourth division grounds as the Football League, but his report goes on: "There is no logic in not designating all other sports grounds which are capable of holding a number of spectators."

The judge recommends the immediate designation of any ground capable of holding over 5,000 spectators. That all also recommends that all sports grounds should comply with the advice given in the Green Guide. "It contains so much good advice that it should be compulsory reading for all those who run sports grounds."

On the matter of crowd control, the interim report recommends that football clubs in England and Wales should give urgent consideration to introducing a system so as to exclude visiting supporters.

Mr Justice Popplewell says he believes that the disorder which occurred at Bradford City's ground on the same day as the Bradford tragedy, and in which a 15-year-old boy died, came about because "a substantial number of visiting supporters, full of drink and cause trouble, and thereby sparked off the subsequent behaviour as was bad as, if not worse than, that of the visitors."

The judge says he does not pretend that his recommended membership system is perfect. "I can guarantee it will cure football hooliganism. It is not, however, possible for the present situation, any longer to continue."

Inside the football grounds, the report recommends the introduction of closed-circuit television at all grounds. In the First and Second divisions and those in the Third and Fourth divisions, there have been a history of violence.

Police can act as a deterrent on hooligans who know their actions will be recorded, and it can assist the police in identifying culprits.

Mr Justice Popplewell recommends that it be made a specific offence to throw missiles — including smoke bombs — at sports grounds and to chant obscene or racist abuse.

He also calls on the Government to consider giving the police sweeping powers of search at the point of entry to sports grounds. He says it is quite clear that large numbers of people go to football matches carrying offensive weapons.

The judge also comes out in favour of perimeter fences. He accepts that there is a limit to the amount of "fortification" which a ground can reasonably introduce around a football pitch but, he says, a standard, efficient perimeter fence with proper gates should not be difficult to design and provide.



David McKie

## Friends left to fight in the night

BY MIDNIGHT there was hardly a seat to be had on the Tory benches. Latecomers had to be sent to the gallery. The place was agog with excitement. You would almost have thought it was the nation's budget, rather than Lord Hailsham's.

The Opposition tactic was to leave the Tories to it. Peter Shore, elegant and biting, and Alan Beith, nicely ironic, opened for Labour, and the Alliance, after which they sat back and let the Tories have the floor.

Tim Eggar came first, a smooth young mercenary, banker from Enfield. As soon as he launched into his earnest plea for acceptance, you could see how much trouble the Government was in.

Those against did not, for the most part, want to interrupt him. They simply ignored him. A contented buzz of chatter broke about him. When he spoke, as MPs often do, to those around him, seeking some sign of approval and assent, most of them seemed to be looking the other way.

Crashly Onslow came next, the chairman of the 1922 Committee. Had a whisper in this class turned on the Government now there would have been a great deal of talk by the morning of whether Maggie could last.

But he didn't. The criticism, when it came, was derisive, casual. "The Government are not doing well," he said. "The Government are not doing well."

It might be permitted to offer a criticism, perhaps, there could be some improvement in the presentation of the Government's case.

Tony Beaumont-Dark was the first of the Tory rebels, the last surviving remainder of Birmingham municipal

populism. He is not taken as seriously as he would like nor even perhaps as he deserves to be — largely because he is so often seen to fall for the temptation to speak out on every issue that occurs.

But on his day (and this was one) he can be powerful and trenchant, with an arresting turn of phrase. "Populism was he? He pleaded guilty to that. Why should he be pleading to populism? He is a man who people outside this House put us here in the first place," he said. "And they can put us out in the second place."

John Biffen's standard convention, the start of 1978, the year Labour bumped up people's pay, cut no ice with him. "To those who say: 'Remember 1978', he growled. "I say, 'Remember 1979'."

Tony Marlow, from Northampton, is a populist too, and a familiar rebel, but now he came lumbering to the Government's aid in a way that made them wish he hadn't.

For him the issue of top salaries, he confessed, was "shrouded in fog, or arithmetic illiteracy," but he could just about discern that the Government was getting it right.

Finally, he addressed the issue around him, the decision was now made. "The more it is attacked by a few of my honourable friends, the more it will appear to be a most sound, reasonable, and all-round, but on the front bench next to Mr Biffen the Prime Minister rarely smiles, seemingly as oppressed by the tedium of it all as much as by the menace, though just once at a fabled joke by the Scottish lawyer Nicholas Falgout, he registered a momentary delight.

Patrick Thompson and David Sumner, pugnacious recruits from the class of '83, said they would vote against. "I've kept telling teachers, the Government must stand firm, however good their case," Mr Sumner said. "How can I go on doing that after this?"

At the end there were two more names. Charles Morrison (Devon very wet) was backing the Government, though not before he had told them to get down the arrangements for the 1986 election.

Edwin Griffiths — also in favour — got through his speech with only one marginal mention of the police.

John Biffen, sounding more muted, at 1.57, the get the result. Seventeen votes, gaps all round — the way that Westminster is often a tactic designed to discount opponents or alert a stunned press. But this time the gaps were real.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Rear seat belt order

REAR SEAT belts or child restraints will be compulsory on all cars built after October 1988, the transport minister, Mrs Lynda Chalker, announced in a Commons written reply yesterday. She said the introduction of rear seat belts would have great potential for saving lives and reducing injuries.

The move was immediately welcomed by the AA, for whom a spokesman said: "We hope that it acts as a great encouragement for passengers to use the belts. However, the Government is not making the wearing of rear seat belts compulsory."

### Mother tells of burial suggestion

A MOTHER told police that her boyfriend suggested burying her child's battered body. It was said at Liverpool Crown Court yesterday. But Susan Stock said that Malcolm Poole dropped the matter when she refused to go along with it.

Poole, aged 28, and Stock, aged 22, both of Duke Street, Birkenhead, deny murdering four-year-old Christopher Stock on November 6. The trial continues.

### More travel by London Transport

LONDON Transport carried 21 per cent more passengers on the Underground and 7 per cent more on the buses last year according to its annual report, published yesterday. An estimated 18 per cent of ticket income came from tourists.

The report, covering the first 15 months of London Region Transport's existence since its severance from the GLC, shows expenditure was below budget over the full period at £929 million, compared with 1983-84, excluding provisions made for future staff reductions. Income was £95 million or 5 per cent above budget.

### Car repairs criticised

THE QUALITY of car repairs and services does not improve the Office of Fair Trading may have to recommend introduction of a licensing system for firms in the motor trade.

Complaints from car owners continue to increase each year, the OFT director-general, Sir Gordon Borrie, said yesterday. He urged the motor trade "to improve its act."

THE GUARDIAN IN EUROPE			
Austria	250p	France	100p
Belgium	350p	Germany	3.25p
Denmark	9.00p	Italy	2.00p
Finland	9.00p	Spain	170p
France	3.50p	Switzerland	3.1p

## TUC calls engineers to account for accepting ballots cash

By Keith Harper, Labour Editor

THE TUC general council yesterday invited leaders of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers to a meeting next month to explain why they had accepted government money to pay for ballots the union has held.

The decision by 34 votes to five could, in theory, eventually lead to the AUEW being suspended or expelled from TUC membership.

But council members took heart yesterday from conciliatory statements from two AUEW leaders who sit on the council, Mr Gerry Russell and Mr Ed Scriven.

Mr Scriven said that, whatever happened, the AUEW had no intention of forming a breakaway organisation outside the TUC. He hoped the union's current problems could be resolved.

Later, the council approved by 31 votes to 9 a statement outlining what was described as "a firm, flexible approach" to government legislation. While reaffirming opposition



Gerry Russell—conciliatory remarks at council meeting

to "anti-union legislation," the TUC has begun to recognise that unions are cooperating at local level on closed shop ballots.

It may carry out a study of the ballots which have so far been conducted, but there is no suggestion of action against unions who have held such ballots.

But the opposition to taking government money for ballots

remains at the centre of its opposition. Going down such a path "could put in grave peril the independence of British trade unionism and in time could lead to unions being reliant on the state," the document says.

That view was opposed yesterday by Mr Bill Jordan, the leading rightwing candidate for the AUEW's presidency, yesterday. Backing its decision to take £12 million of state cash for union elections he declared that expulsion of the engineers would be "a victory for those who don't want a Labour government elected."

Mr Jordan said that several unions nationally were preaching defiance of the legislation while locally they were sanctioning compliance.

His union was the only one in the TUC to put the question to a ballot of its members and they had voted overwhelmingly in favour.

But Mr Jordan also ruled out linking up with any other union, excluded from the TUC. "I cannot see the formation of a second TUC. There is only one TUC," he declared.

## Rate-cap hit list widened

By John Carvel, Political Correspondent

Mr Patrick Jenkin, the Environment Secretary, will announce today that Newcastle and Liverpool are to be added to his rate-capping hit list for next year.

It appears that other Labour councils which have feared they would be included, notably Manchester, Middlesbrough, Blackburn, and the London boroughs of Newham and

Hounslow, have escaped this time.

Mr Jenkin will announce the new list as part of a rate support grant package for English local authorities, which will abolish spending targets and penalties. Shire areas are expected to benefit at the expense of cities.

He will add about £500 million to the Government's spending plan, leaving the English councils with cuts of about £1 billion.

## BR guards vote on strike

By Jane McLoughlin

British Rail's 10,000 guards are being urged by the executive of the National Union of Railwaymen to vote in favour of strike action in a ballot to be held in the next few weeks.

Mr Jimmy Knapp, the NUR general secretary, said yesterday: "We will hold a national ballot of the guards and we will ask for a yes vote. We

want the authority to strike."

The executive decided on the ballot at a meeting called to consider the Government's High Court injunction instructing the NUR to lift its blocking of new privately built railways.

The union is protesting because British Rail Engineering Works, where 4,800 men are to be made redundant over the next two years, did not get the order to build them.

## No right to rehousing for family in one room

By Penny Choriton

A young couple and their two children, living in council bed and breakfast accommodation — one room without cooking or washing facilities — have no right to be rehoused by their local authority, three Court of Appeal judges ruled yesterday.

Even though their accommodation was, in the words of Lord Justice Slade, "lamentably inadequate," Ricky and Angela Fulfoer were not homeless within the meaning of the 1977 Housing Act.

He agreed with Lord Justice Gidwell in allowing an appeal by Hillingdon Borough Council against a High Court judge's decision that the Fulfoers were homeless because they had not been provided with appropriate accommodation.

Lord Justice Ackner said the word "appropriate" could not be read into the act.

Lord Justice Gidwell said: "If a family are living in conditions which are so overcrowded, insanitary and lacking in facilities as to be intolerable they may be placed near the top of the normal housing list under the act."

"But whether or how soon this desirable result occurs must, in my view, depend not only on the conditions in which that family is living but on the relative conditions of other families and the general availability of suitable housing."

The Fulfoers — both unemployed — moved into the council accommodation in Harrow, Middlesex, in 1983.

Commenting on the decision, a spokesman for Shelter's Baywater Project, said: "If other local authorities choose to follow this judgment they will say that bed and breakfast accommodation is adequate as a permanent home even where families are illegally overcrowded and have no cooking facilities, and with the Fulfoers."

## Kinnock demands £1 m aid for 'slum' hospital

From Martin Kettle in Mbeya, Tanzania

The Labour leader, Mr Neil Kinnock, yesterday demanded that the overseas development minister, Mr Timothy Raison, should release £1 million promised to a Tanzanian hospital but withheld because of its squalid and dilapidated state.

Mr Kinnock and his wife, Glensy, were shocked by their separate visits to hospitals in the south-western Tanzanian town of Mbeya, near the Zambian border, on the second day of their East African tour.

The hospitals which have received about £500,000 from British since 1980, expected the £1 million to be allocated last year.

Mr Kinnock emerged angry from his visit to the hospital.

He called on Mr Raison, who visited the hospital earlier this year, to release the aid immediately. The kitchen was "shameful," with cooking on open charcoal fires and food chopped on an old tree; soiled laundry was being trodden by spares for the British-made washing machines.

Mr Glensy Kinnock found her visit to the Mbeya maternity hospital, which treats 100,000 patients a year, a "shocking experience" because of the squalor and damaged vehicles, sterilising machines and threatening equipment.

Each ward had to rely on only one light bulb — with replacements costing £5 each — and during some periods of the year the hospital has no water for three days a week.

Mr Kinnock said he was "shocked" by the conditions in the hospital, which he described as "a slum."

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## Loyalists step up sectarian campaign in town

From Paul Johnson in Belfast

Two Roman Catholic women have been forced to leave their jobs in Cookstown, Co Tyrone, because of Loyalist threats to their employer.

The Protestant restaurant owner received two poison pen letters warning him of serious consequences if the women were kept on or if he continued to employ them. The letters were signed: "Loyalists of Cookstown."

"Fight other letters, saying 'Accidents can happen if warnings are not heeded' have been sent to other prominent Protestant businessmen."

The anonymous messages, which were received at the weekend, are the latest evidence of an outbreak of sectarianism in the small market town where the population is evenly divided between Roman Catholics and Protestants.

Trouble started in May when the Rev Ian Paisley led a band of followers, many of them skinheads, marched through the town and into a small Catholic estate.

Earlier this month, re-routed Orange parades led to clashes in Cookstown between security forces and Loyalists.

Two policewomen on a Protestant estate were forced to leave their home after a petrol bomb was thrown at the building.

A Sinn Féin councillor, Mr Christopher Neeson, said yesterday that the two women who had lost their jobs did not want to be named for fear of reprisals.

The employer said they would have to go because he was afraid of the consequences for them all if they stayed.

Mr Neeson said: "The Catholic community is very worried about what will happen next in Cookstown."

The Official Unionist Party in Londonderry said yesterday that two of its councillors who breached a ban on attending Derry City Council meetings had expelled themselves from the party.

The OUP and its Democratic Unionist counterpart fought the local government elections on an abstentionist ticket because of the row over renouncing the nationalist-controlled authority.

The councillors, Mr Jim Guy and Mr David Davis, said they would be taking legal advice.

## MoD digs deep for bunker

Paul Brown on the revelations of new military control centres being built under central London

A NEW bunker control centre code-named Pindar is being built under the Ministry of Defence building in Whitehall six storeys deep at a cost of around £20 million.

The bunker, revealed in an article in the New Statesman, is connected by underground tunnels to the Cabinet Office and Downing Street.

The bunker will replace the Cabinet Office control centre known as Cobra, and the central military control room currently above ground in the Ministry of Defence.

Last night the Ministry of Defence confirmed that work was going on to restructure existing bunkers and build new communication centres under the ministry but

would not comment on reports of a second back-up bunker under High Holborn and plans by the Americans to build a bunker of their own under Goodge Street underground station.

Secrecy about the new bunkers was inadvertently punctured by the private builders brought in to do the work. Although there have been no visible signs of work the London Fire Brigade have twice been called to deal with serious incidents.

The first occurred on the sixth floor below Whitehall when some generating equipment caught fire. The second was caused by the use of welding equipment in a large room on the fifth floor, with a build-up of heavy smoke.

The Pindar plan was first devised in 1980 after the Cabinet had ordered a review of the Home defence plans. Current military operations to build a bunker of their own under Goodge Street

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who should pay for the new bunkers was settled in 1982 when the Defence Secretary, Mr Michael Heseltine, approved the bunkers as a secret military project. The High Holborn exchange was first built as a war-time shelter but when it became the Kingsway telephone exchange it was connected to 12 miles of cable-carrying tunnels. Ownership is now passing from British Telecom to the Ministry of Defence.

RT's deep-level cable network reaches secret street exits as widely separated as Bethnal Green and Maida Vale.

The American plan to build their own bunker under Goodge Street is designed to replace surface facilities for controlling the

A two-year argument over



Michael Heseltine: funds approved in 1982

US Navy in the Mediterranean. However, the British Government is said to be nervous about providing bunker facilities for Americans in London when the civilian population remains unprotected.

The Ministry of Defence said the new bunker space was needed because existing facilities were cramped.

## MPs attack way ministers broke spending rules

By Richard Norton-Taylor

The Commons Public Accounts Committee yesterday criticised arrangements made to appoint Mr Peter Levene, chief of the Government's arms purchasing agency as a serious breach of the principle that top civil servants are personally accountable to Parliament for money spent by their department.

Criticism was specifically directed at Mr Michael Heseltine, the Defence Secretary, who engaged Mr Levene, Mrs Thatcher, who backed the appointment, and the Treasury by the all-party committee, the most senior of such bodies.

The committee notes that to meet any suggestion of impropriety, an unprecedented arrangement was made whereby Mr Levene would not be involved in any ministry business with his former company, United Scientific Holdings, or its subsidiaries, for at least a year.

But he remains the Accounting Officer constitutionally responsible for all the procurement agency's spending.

It is this which leads the committee to declare: "In our view there should be no area of government expenditure, however small, for which the Accounting Officer does not have executive powers and the ability to answer personally to this committee."

The effect of the Government's decision is precisely to reduce the responsibility of the Accounting Officer to one of form without substance... we regard the arrangement as a serious breach of the principle of personal financial accountability to Parliament."

The Government is also castigated for allowing the defence industry to keep what it describes as "windfall profits" of about £300 million over the past four years.

The rate for such profits was set at 20 per cent at a

time of low profit levels in the rest of industry and of falling inflation.

Information sought by the Treasury about contractors' capital and investment in November 1983 was not provided until last April, and even then it was not complete. The contractors' argument that refusal to release information was justified on grounds of commercial confidentiality is rejected.

They suggest that under existing procedures it is much too easy for defence companies to manipulate costs since the ministry's attempts to monitor them are inadequate.

In any case, the committee says, post-audit investigations are no guarantee that contractors would not still try to obtain unreasonable prices.

Because of the ineffectiveness of ministry arrangements, the committee says that where a person is prepared to risk damage to his reputation and livelihood by helping the ministry in uncovering such matters, he should be given the fullest consideration by the department.

This first recognition that there is a role for whistle blowers in the defence industry follows pressure, in parliament, by a Labour member of the committee, Mr Dale Campbell-Savours, MP for Wokingham.

It was prompted by Guardian reports about the case of Mr Jim Smith, who was sacked as financial director of Aish, a Poole-based defence contractor, after warning his colleagues about the consequences of overcharging the ministry.

Aish has since paid back £400,000 in excess profits and Mr Smith is in serious financial difficulties.

25th Report from the Committee of Public Accounts: Profit Formula for non-completed government contracts, c1 Stationery Office, £3.90.

## DHSS overturns order to trace 16,000 claimants owed benefits

By Susan Tirbitt

An investigation to trace about 16,000 claimants owed benefit because of administrative errors is not legally required, the Court of Appeal ruled yesterday.

Lord Justice Neill, Sir Denis Buckley and Sir Rouseley Cumming-Bruce upheld an appeal by the Social Services Secretary and the DHSS chief adjudication officer against a High Court ruling that an investigation should be carried out.

Identifying them would need a check of about 15 million papers by 420 administrative staff for a year, costing £4.8 million, according to the DHSS.

The appeal Court found no evidence that individual insurance or benefit officers knew the administrative machinery was not working efficiently before the DHSS Inspectorate reported in July 1983 that some claimants had not

received refunds of benefit deductions.

The Appeal Court judges also dismissed an appeal by the Greater London Council that they had standing to take legal action in the matter.

Costs of the action, which has taken 18 months, were awarded against the Child Poverty Action Group and the GLC. A CPAG spokesman said later that the GLC had agreed to indemnify the group for their costs, which would run into tens of thousands of pounds.

"The Appeal Court ruling means that the DHSS do not have to repay the money which has been wrongly taken from claimants. That seems to be completely wrong," the CPAG spokesman said.

The Government's plan not to protect child benefit from the full rate of inflation is opposed by 46 voluntary and statutory organisations in a leaflet published today by the Save Child Benefit Campaign.

claimants had voluntarily become unemployed and so were not entitled to benefit immediately.

After the disclosure the DHSS mounted two publicity campaigns inviting applications from anyone who believed their benefit had been wrongfully withheld.

By June last year about £230,000 had been refunded to 9,300 people. The DHSS estimated that about 16,000 more claimants were owed refunds totalling about £440,000.

The action by the Child Poverty Action Group, which will apply for leave to appeal to the Lords, and the Greater London Council followed disclosure that many people claiming unemployment benefit between 1980 and 1983 had been underpaid.

The underpayments, which averaged about £25, were the result of errors by DHSS officers who wrongly assumed the



Jeff Stultiens, with the jewellery designer Isobel Work and a portrait of her which has won the £7,000 John Player portrait award. He received the award from Lord Gower at the National Portrait Gallery yesterday. Picture by Martin Argles

## Witnesses in bite marks baby case 'deliberately lying to mislead jury'

Some witnesses giving evidence in the Tyra Henry baby-biting trial at the Old Bailey were accused by the prosecution yesterday of sometimes deliberately lying in an attempt to keep the jury from getting to the truth.

Mr Clive Nicholls, QC, prosecuting, said in his closing speech that questions to some of the witnesses had sometimes been met with a wall of silence.

"There was sometimes plain reluctance to answer questions and sometimes questions followed by plain and deliberate lies," he said.

Andrew Neil, aged 20, of Brixton, south London, denies murdering his 21-month-old daughter Tyra in August last year but admits inflicting bite marks on her body. The prosecution alleged that Tyra was battered to death by Neil

while in the care of social workers.

Neil did not go into the witness box to give evidence in his defence. His counsel, Mr Ashe Lincoln, QC, told the jury: "Having heard evidence for the prosecution, and as the case stands on the evidence, I do not propose to call my client."

Mr Nicholls said that some witnesses were willing to agree particularly with questions from the defence which seemed to assist the defendant.

During the case one witness, Patrick Osborne, a neighbour of Neil, told the court that some of his statements made to police two days after Tyra's death was untrue.

Asked by Mr Nicholls why he made the statement if it contained lies, Osborne said he was telling the truth now in

his evidence. He had made up a part of his statement to police "because of the fight me and Andrew had."

The judge reminded the jury that while Tyra was in her grandmother's care she did not have a mark on her.

The jury members must make up their own minds what they made of the child's mother, Claudette Henry. Was she telling the truth or did she have an axe to grind? There was no question of her causing the injuries.

Turning to Neil, the judge underlined every defendant's right not to give evidence but added that the jury had no explanation from him as to any aspect of the case.

All they had to go on was his demeanour in court. The jury will retire today to consider its verdict.

## Warning to Jenkin on home improvement plan

By John Ardill, Environment Correspondent

A consortium of housing interests has told the Environment Secretary, Mr Patrick Jenkin, that his green paper on home improvements, which includes a plan to replace grants with loans, will accelerate decline in Britain's housing stock.

A letter signed by leaders of 19 organisations sets out the common ground on which the bodies will later make detailed responses to the green paper and calls for greater public and investment in housing renovation.

The group includes the professional institutes for planners, surveyors, architects, health officers, the building employers and building materials producers; the RUC; the Association of Metropolitan Authorities and the London Boroughs Association; the National Federation of Housing Associations; and bodies like Shelter, Shac, and Age Concern.

The letter welcomes some aspects of the green paper but

says that the net effect of its proposals may be to reduce public spending while housing stock continues to deteriorate.

If the green paper is intended to cut spending and target resources more effectively, the proposed switch from grants to loans and the introduction of means-testing are not the best that could be devised and will not secure value for money, it says.

The key to solving the problems of older housing stock was more investment. It was essential that more generous aid should be directed to renovating whole areas of declining housing; that those on very low incomes should be given more help, including 100 per cent grants; and that any scheme adopted should be simple to administer and easy to understand.

The authors share Mr Jenkin's view that primary responsibility for the condition of houses lies with owners. "But we have to say that, realistically, we feel it unlikely that private owners will or can do more for themselves."

## Police win cell appeal

The Court of Appeal yesterday set aside £500 damages awarded by a Manchester jury in 1983 to a solicitor after it had found that he had been falsely imprisoned.

Mr Malcolm David Middleweek had been arrested at Liverpool magistrates' court in April 1980, refusing to hand over a document which a police inspector said belonged to them. He was held for two hours, part of the time in a cell at Liverpool's main police station.

Lord Justice Ackner, Lord Justice Slade and Lord Justice Glidewell, giving a reserved judgment, said that since the jury had found that Mr Middleweek had been lawfully arrested there was no basis for suggesting that the police had acted unlawfully in detaining him in a cell.

They allowed the police appeal, set aside the damages, and ordered Mr Middleweek to pay the costs of the Manchester hearing and two-thirds of the appeal costs.

**This man is bidding for Debenhams**

Mr Halpern's Burton Group is, as is well-known, bidding for Debenhams.

Burton's experience in retailing is largely limited to selling inexpensive clothes to the under-30s (a declining market\*) in single storey shops.

No wonder he wants to try and grab Debenhams share of the growth market of the next decade.

His single attempt to appeal to the expanding over-30s market (so well understood by Debenhams) is struggling. Principles, the shop chain in question, is acknowledged to be less than a success.

His experience of managing large, multi-level stores retailing a wide range of merchandise is virtually nil.

His expansive claims to have the ability to run Debenhams are ill-founded.

To support them, he has felt compelled to present his bid as a joint effort with Sir Terence Conran. It is nothing of the kind. Burton is bidding on its own.

**This man isn't bidding for Debenhams**

Sir Terence Conran's Habitat-Mothercare Group is, as is less well-known, not bidding for Debenhams.

He is putting up no cash.

He has no legal commitment whatever to the potential future of Debenhams.

Mr Halpern is offering him an option of up to 20% of Debenhams (if Burton were to take it over); this option can't be exercised until September 1986, and even then Sir Terence has no obligation to go ahead.

Mr Halpern intends that Sir Terence should be responsible for design aspects. The 'galleria', their offering in store design thinking, has been largely discredited as vague and hopelessly costly. It has been pushed back to a very inconspicuous corner amongst their claims.

Sir Terence can afford to sit on the sidelines; he isn't bidding.

**Do you really believe that these men, alone or together, are qualified to run...**

*The New*

# DEBENHAMS

*Specialists - above all*

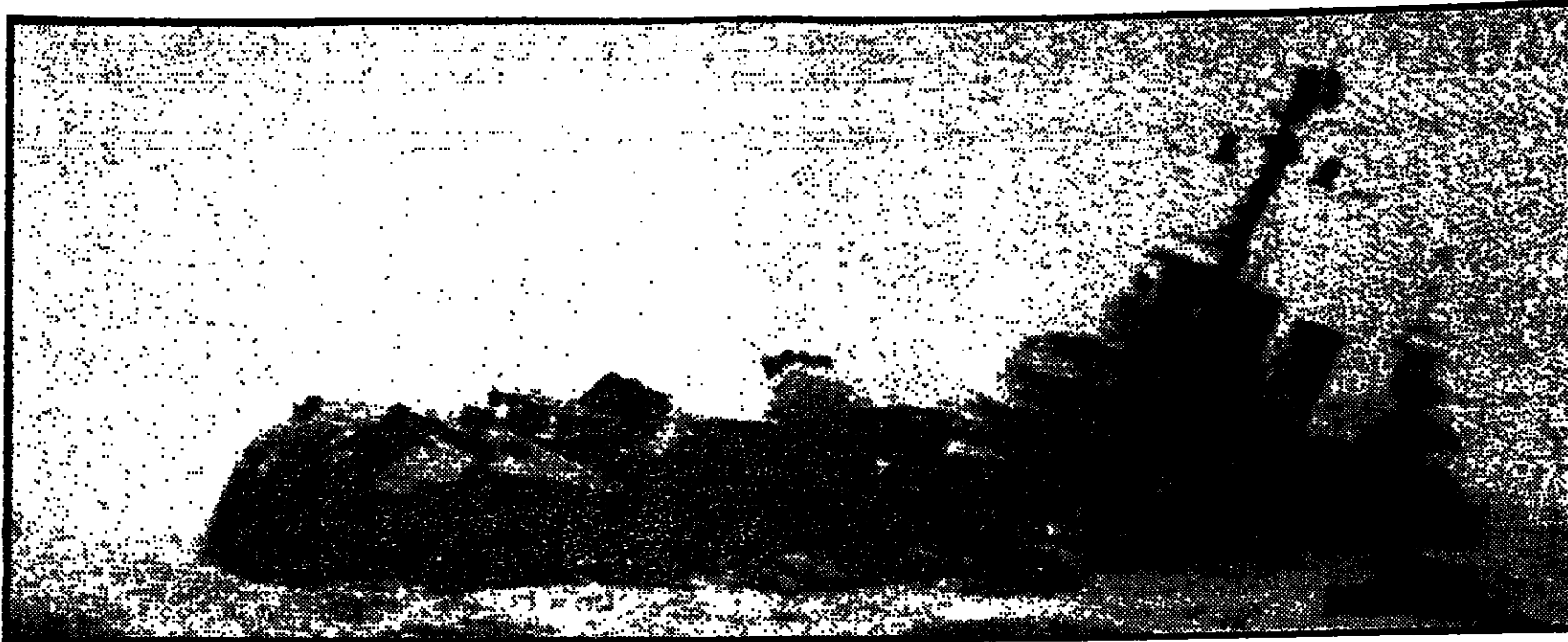
\*Source: Central Statistical Office: Social Trends, 1983.

**IGNORE THE BURTON BID**

**KEEP YOUR DEBENHAMS SHARES**



Tory and Labour MPs on the Commons foreign affairs committee split yesterday in their assessment of the British action in sinking the Argentine cruiser, General Belgrano, during the Falklands war. The majority Tory group exonerates the war cabinet, but a minority report by the four Labour MPs says the sinking was unjustified. The Belgrano was sunk by the submarine HMS Conqueror outside the total exclusion zone on May 2, 1982, with the loss of 368 lives. Richard Norton-Taylor reports on the views of the two sets of MPs



## Labour report condemns Belgrano sinking and its 'cover-up'

THE order to sink the Belgrano was "a hasty and unjustifiable decision to risk many lives and a possible disaster... to ensure the life of an administration which was itself palpably negligent," the Labour members on the Commons foreign affairs committee say.

In their minority report — twice as long and more detailed than the one produced by the Conservative majority — they call on the House of Commons to set up its own inquiry, conducted by MPs, with the right of access to all classified information. They point in particular to questions that remain unanswered about the extent of the knowledge at fleet headquarters at Northwood of Argentine signals to its fleet on the weekend of May 1 and 2 1982 and how efficiently this information was communicated to the war cabinet.

According to available in-

formation "the change to the rules of engagement, and thus the attack on the Belgrano, were authorised partly on the basis of incomplete or incorrect assessments. Rather than acknowledge any shortcomings or inconsistencies, Ministers chose to provide Parliament with less than accurate accounts of events. So their cover-up began," the report says.

The four Labour MPs — Mr Nigel Spearing, Mr Ian Mikardo, Mr Dennis Canavan and Mr Michael Welsh — charge the seven Tory members with obstructing their attempts to pursue what they call "proper parliamentary activities", notably by blocking their attempt to ask Mrs Thatcher and Mr Michael Heseltine, the Defence Secretary, additional questions as more information came to light.

In particular, they say on April 3 this year, the Tory

majority reversed a previous decision to ask Mr Heseltine whether Northwood was aware at the time of Argentine signals, decoded by GCHQ, recalling the Argentine fleet 20 hours before the Belgrano was attacked at about 8 pm London time on May 2, 1982.

The existence of the recall signal — repeated later in the morning of May 2 — and the fact that it had been decoded by GCHQ was acknowledged by Lord Lewin in evidence to the committee, though he said that he had no knowledge of it until May 3 or May 4. The Labour group say "the claimed delay in decoding or forwarding this significant signal" is "both extraordinary and of major significance".

They add: "We do not accept that it is right for ministers to invest the process of gathering and assessing intelligence with the sort of mystique that allows them

arbitrarily to conceal, misuse or distort information on which they base decisions. They point out that Lord Lewin acknowledged in evidence to the committee that the claim by ministers that the Belgrano was part of an Argentine pincer movement was "essentially speculative." They reject the claim by Sir



Sir John Nott — claims false

John Nott, the then Defence Secretary, that his statement to the Commons on May 4, 1982 — when he said that the Belgrano was first sighted on May 2 and was closing on the task force, claims now known to be false — was made in good faith.

There was no justification for a hasty, ill-prepared statement, the report says. News of the sinking of the Belgrano had arrived in London over 36 hours earlier. It is also now known that three separate drafts were made of the statement before it was finally approved by the war cabinet.

The Labour group says that Nott's references in the Commons to the use of force as a last resort were incompatible with Mrs Thatcher's statement in April 1982 that her objective was to restore British administration on the Falklands "at the earliest possible moment." Information had to be suppressed to

hide that incompatibility, it says. The need to do this, according to the minority report, lay at the root of some otherwise puzzling anomalies — the Government had committed thousands of men and a large part of the Royal Navy not just to retake the Falklands but also to protect and secure the life of the administration.

The report says that the possibility of a link between the Peruvian peace proposals and the sinking of the Belgrano is still an open question, mainly because of the Government's decision to suppress information. It says the Foreign Office refused to give the committee the full text of the telegram from Washington about discussions early on May 2, 1982, between Mr Alexander Haig, then US Secretary of State, and the then Foreign Secretary, Mr Francis Pym.

Documents which the FO

has refused to release show, the Labour MPs say, "that during those discussions the Secretary of State sounded out what might be HM Government's reactions to giving a few days to one more attempt at negotiation, with a temporary ceasefire for that period, but was told that the war cabinet would not do anything that might lessen their potential for military action."

But even more important, according to the Labour group, was a new set of proposals which was being drawn up by the UN secretary-general, Mr Perez de Cuellar. These proposals were presented to Mr Pym in writing the day the Belgrano was sunk.

Military escalation, it says, as distinct from minimum force, was chosen by the Government as the prime means of achieving its purpose long before it was necessary or could be justified. Leader comment, page 12

## Spend more on science, MPs urge

By Anthony Tucker, Science Correspondent  
LOW funding for civil science is leading to "serious damage to the fabric of the nation's research base," Sir William van Straubenzee, chairman of the Commons select committee on education, science and the arts, said yesterday. Presenting the committee's report on science spending, Sir William said that there is a real and urgent need for the Government to increase the support to prevent any further losses in the quantity and quality of research in science and technology says the report.

Recent restructuring of the research council, enforced by financial stringency, has resulted in early retirement or job loss for almost 2,000 scientists, who embody a costly and valuable sector of the nation's expertise. The costs of redundancy and early pensions have been very high for the Agricultural and Food Research Council and for the Natural Environment Research Council, which have had to divert resources to meet these "restructuring" costs.

The select committee says that this kind of expense should not be seen as a separate item on the Department of Education and Science vote.

The research councils became critically dependent on departmental research contracts under the Rothschild reorganisation of Government science in 1972.

The recent general reductions of departmental expenditure in health, environment, agriculture and industry have all emphasised the limitation on research council funding through the DES.

The select committee says that where a cut in departmental contracts results in job losses or restructuring — as has been the case in the withdrawal of Agriculture Ministry support for the Soil Survey of Britain — the contracting department should meet the costs, rather than taking them from money allocated for research, says the committee.

To meet merely the costs of sophistication in scientific research it is essential that annual increases in the science budget must be above the general movement of prices, says the report. During the present period of financial difficulty, the science budget should increase in real terms by at least 3 per cent a year.

The committee recommends that the cost of international subscriptions to organisations of which Britain is a partner under treaty — such as the European Centre for Nuclear Research or the European Molecular Biology Organisation — should be largely borne by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. The committee also recommends that radical changes should be considered for national policy development, co-ordination and control in science and technology, and that a separate department may well be merited.

In any case there should be a minister at Cabinet level charged with policy responsibility and the existing separate advisory bodies for science and for technology — the Advisory Board for the Research Councils and the Advisory Council for Applied Research and Development — might usefully be merged into a more powerful body, the report says.

Sir William said yesterday that the committee was convinced of the urgency of the situation by several factors. He listed the sharply rising costs of equipment essential for first class scientific training; the research council's inability to support a large proportion of important research proposals; the inability of universities and research councils to provide continuing support for the new blood of scientists made possible by once-off government grants; and evidence of a recent "brain drain".

The Future of the Science Budget, Stationery Office, £3.50.

## Cabinet 'right to protect fleet'

THE WAR cabinet's decision to authorise the sinking of the Belgrano on the evening of May 2 1982 was militarily justified particularly in light of intelligence assessments available to ministers at the time, says the majority report by the seven Conservatives on the Commons foreign affairs committee.

Even if the Belgrano's course — steadily westwards away from the task force for 11 hours before it was hit — had been notified to ministers during that afternoon, the assessment made then about Argentina's tactical plans, would not have justified a change in the order to attack, the report says.

"The principal question which needs to be resolved is not whether, given all the additional information now available, the Argentine

discourage further questioning about the circumstances of the sinking. "The House remained for too long in ignorance of information which members were perfectly entitled to request and some of which ceased to be of operational significance soon after the end of hostilities."

It would have been preferable, when it had become clear that MPs were concerned about the events of May 1 and 2, 1982, if ministers "had volunteered a comprehensive statement on those events, including much of the material which has been extracted from them so painfully over the last three years."

The Tory group, led by the committee chairman, Sir Anthony Kershaw, MP for Stroud, questioned whether ministers — notably the Defence Secretary, Mr Michael Heseltine — would have been more forthcoming if the Labour MP, Mr Tam Dalyell, had not passed to the committee two documents sent to him by the former Ministry of Defence civil servant, Clive Ponting.

A year ago to the day, the committee agreed to hand over the documents to Mr Heseltine — a move which led to Mr Ponting's arrest — in return for extracting a promise from Mr Heseltine that he would give evidence to it.

The Tory group concedes that the purpose of the Government's decision to announce, first a maritime exclusion zone and then a total exclusion zone around the Falklands, was unclear and ultimately misleading, particularly in view of the "general" warning to Argentina issued on April 23, 1982. But its criticisms end there.

The report says that though there is no doubt that the Peruvian Government and the Argentine junta believed that the US Secretary of State was in close contact with Mr Pym, the then Foreign Secretary, in Washington about the details of a new peace plan on the morning of May 2, 1982, "nothing from British sources suggests that this was in fact the case." The peace plan, in any case, was not in a form acceptable to the British Government.

Third report from the Commons Foreign Affairs Committee, Events Surrounding the Sinking of the Belgrano, Stationery Office, £13.

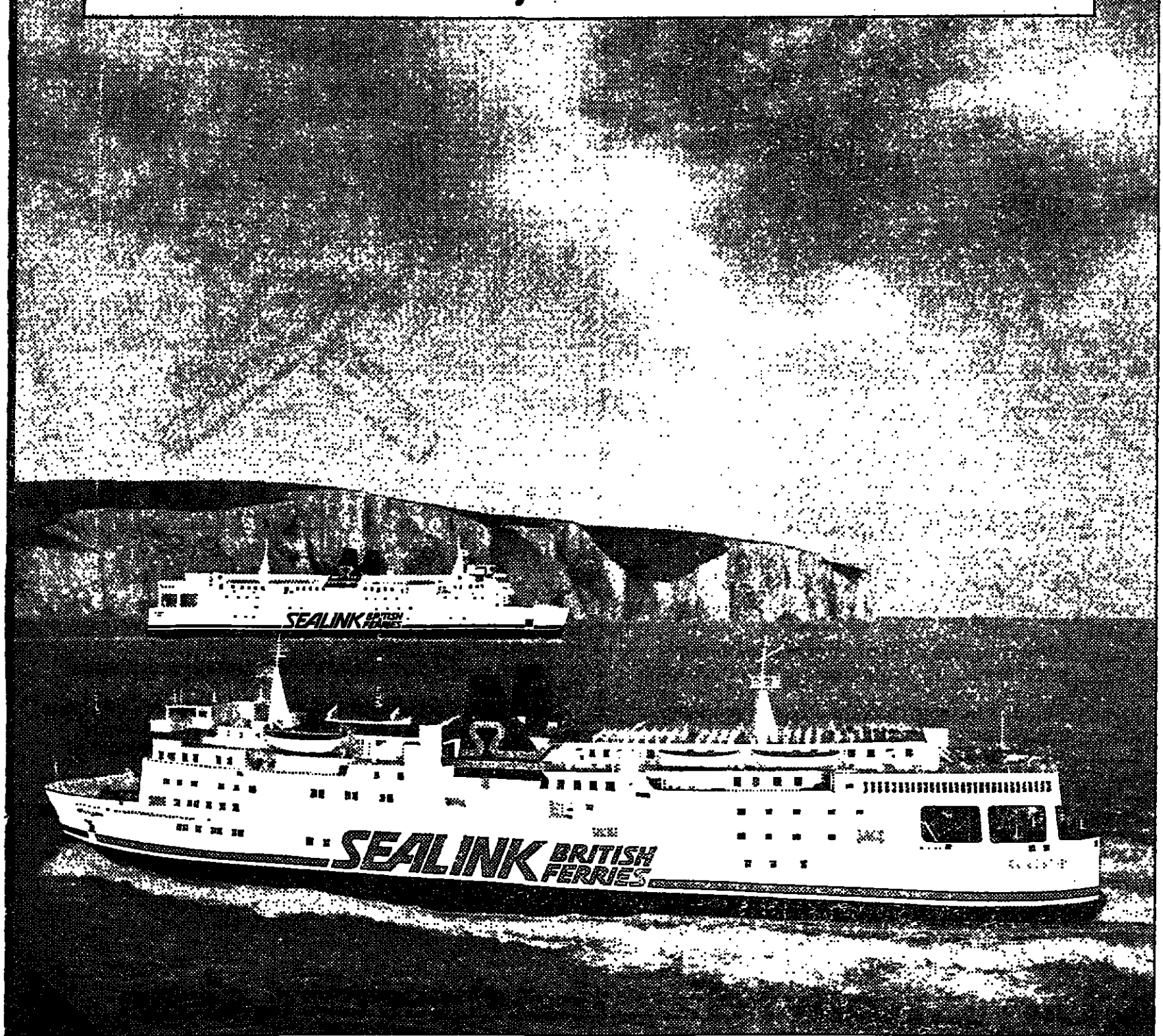
Sir Anthony Kershaw — painful process

cruiser did in fact pose a threat sufficiently immediate to justify its sinking, but whether the decision to change the rules of engagement to permit an attack on the cruiser was justified in the light of information available at the time (the report's italics to the chiefs of staff and the war cabinet and of the assessments of Argentine intentions based on that information).

The report does not discuss "the additional information now available" but adds: "The paramount obligation of the war cabinet was to protect the task force which had arrived in the Falklands area, and action to pre-empt attacks on the task force was therefore justified if such attacks were thought to be imminent."

The report criticises ministers for failing to provide information in an attempt to

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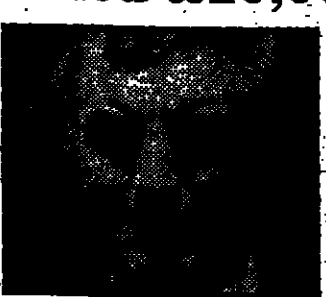
If you'd like further information, contact your local travel agent or travel centre, or call us on 01-834 8122.

## Detective awarded £10,000 for libel

A senior Metropolitan Police detective, Superintendent William Peters, was yesterday awarded £10,000 damages by a jury in a libel action against the Observer and two journalists, David Leigh and Paul Lushman.

Mr Peters, aged 42, of Chesham, Hertfordshire, claimed that an article in July 1982 meant that he had, or probably had, corruptly allowed a criminal bail and that he had later tipped him off and allowed him to abscond.

The paper and journalists denied that the article headed "Secrets of the Bullion Job" about the £3 million London silver ingot armed robbery in 1980, was defamatory. They were ordered to pay the costs.



William Peters — pleased to clear his name

Mr Justice Pann granted the defendants a stay on the award, pending a possible appeal.

After the result, Mr Peters, who was backed by the Police Federation, said he was de-

lighted to have cleared his name.

The article quoted criminals who claimed that "Micky", one of the men involved in stealing the bullion, paid a bribe to get bail. It added that the officer who handled the bail application was Mr Peters, who denied receiving any money.

The article said that the Observer had no evidence that the allegation was true.

The "Observer" article also said "Micky" was tipped off that he had been informed on, and absconded.

Summing up the judge asked jurors to imagine reading the "serious meaty" Observer and look at the words in the context of the article as a whole. "You are entitled to read between the lines."







## Brothers arrested on dam charges

From George Armstrong in Rome and AP

Three men were arrested yesterday following the Italian dam collapse disaster, including two brothers who own the earth dam and neighbouring mine. More than 200 tourists and villagers died when the dam burst.

The chief state prosecutor in Trento, Mr Francesco Simeoni, said more arrests were likely as investigators questioned dozens of people, many of them local government officials, for possible criminal negligence in last Friday's disaster. Two local government officials who were among those receiving judicial notices resigned yesterday.

Rescue officials retrieved four more bodies yesterday from the mountain of mud, water and debris that swept Stava, in north-eastern Italy. That brought the number of the corpses recovered in the area to 204 — 38 of them unidentified.

The rescue workers also dug out two live chickens from under the rubble of a house. Officials said the unidentified bodies will be buried in a mass grave in nearby Tesero after a funeral tomorrow.

Mr Giulio Rota, one of two brothers who own Presta's mine, was arrested on Tuesday night. Mr Rota, aged 58, turned himself in to authorities after an arrest warrant was issued, his lawyers said.

Mr Simeoni also issued an arrest warrant for Rota's ailing brother, Aldo, who was reported in serious condition recovering from a heart attack two weeks ago. Aldo Rota, aged 63, was ordered to come to his hospital room in Trento. Later police said they also arrested Mr Matteo Temasi, a forestry inspector for the Stava area.

The Rota brothers were charged with multiple manslaughter and causing a disaster. Charges against Mr Temasi were not immediately announced. If convicted the Rota's could each be sentenced to 12 years in prison.

Mr Simeoni has reportedly issued between 40 and 60 summonses to various people who have had supervisory connections with the mine since 1982, when the first of the mine's two dams were built. In that year the mine was owned by Montecatini Edison (today known as Montedison), and later by ENI, the state-owned petrochemical giant.

The successive chairmen of both firms include some leading names in Italian industry today. One Christian Democrat senator, who was formerly responsible for mining regulations in the Trento region, is among those to receive a summons.

The European Commission yesterday decided to give one million Ecu (£550,000) to survivors and families of victims of the catastrophe.

## French defence faces cutback, civil service to be reduced

# Mitterrand to present an austerity budget

From Paul Webster in Paris

A new austerity budget is to be presented to parliament in October, after a decision by the administration to fight next March's general election on a record of vigorous economic management.

Defence faces a 2 per cent cut in allocations in real terms. Several thousand civil service jobs are expected to go.

Because of a new wave of promised personal and business tax reductions, the government will have less to spend in real terms during 1986 than in 1985, itself a year of austerity. Across-the-board cuts will have to be made in areas except scientific education, law and order, and research, according to budget outlines that will be debated in the cabinet in early September.

Public sector aid to key areas such as industry, building, unemployment, agriculture, law and order, and culture, will be reduced by nearly 4 per cent after inflation is taken into account.

Subsidies to nationalised industries are likely to be slashed by at least 25 per cent. State-owned companies will be told to raise capital on the private market and pay dividends to the state if they have made a profit.

Some are expected to be defeated in the March parliamentary elections by the right-wing opposition, according to opinion polls. But President Mitterrand has ordered a deflationary budget rather than make concessions in government spending to reduce the three million unemployment level.

He is banking on the fact that experience since the war

has shown that the electorate prefers strict economic management.

As an example, the right-wing former prime minister, Mr Raymond Barre, who fought for a return to fundamental market forces between 1976 and 1981, is now considered the man most likely to become president in 1988.

Finance Ministry officials have revealed outlines of the 1986 budget as a start to a long campaign in which the left will try to reject opposition accusations that the economy has been mismanaged over the past four years.

But indications of severe cuts in public spending will only increase the rift with the Communists, who broke with the government a year ago, after saying that Mr Mitterrand had "swung to the right." They are pressing for more state intervention to create jobs.

The budget being prepared by the Finance Minister, Mr Jacques Delors, one of the President's closest political allies, strengthens a general move to social democracy and a liberalisation of the economy, accompanied by overall tax cuts of 3 per cent. The most striking proof of the government's economic philosophy is the new attitude on nationalised industry.

Most of the groups taken over in 1981 have done reasonably well, and it is felt that they can now manage without government aid.

Total predicted expenditure has been set at just over 1,000 billion francs — about £80 billion — but when debt servicing and inflation are taken into consideration, the amount will represent the first drop in a budget from one year to another since the war.

## Thatcher will urge war on terrorists

From Alex Brummer in Washington

On her third visit to Washington in seven months, Mrs Thatcher will today address a meeting of the International Democratic Union, and is expected to use the occasion to drum up further support for anti-terrorism measures. She will also emphasise the need for Western governments to pursue Star Wars research with the same vigour as the Soviet Union.

The Defence Secretary, Mr Michael Heseltine, made a flying visit to Washington earlier in the week in an effort to give a "political steer" to Britain's effort to become the first of the US's allies to share in research on the Strategic Defence Initiative. This will be the main thrust of Mrs Thatcher's private talks with American cabinet officials.

Britain is stressing that there will have to be a transfer of technology from the Pentagon as part of a Star Wars deal, and that Europe cannot be expected to accept the role of "sub-contractors" on the American \$26 billion research programme.

Mrs Thatcher is expected to emphasise this when she calls on Mr Casper Weinberger at the Pentagon on Friday afternoon.

It was still not clear yesterday whether Mrs Thatcher, the Western leader closest to President Reagan, would be granted an audience with the President.

Mrs Thatcher and other guests, including the Australian opposition leader, Mr Andrew Peacock, the mayor of Paris, Mr Jacques Chirac, the Prime Minister of Bavaria, Mr Franz Josef Strauss, and a number of prime ministers from the Caribbean islands, including Mr Edward Seaga of Jamaica, will be guests of

Vice-President George Bush at a White House reception. Although Mrs Thatcher is not pushing for a talk with Mr Reagan, British diplomats say that if she was invited to see the President and Mrs Reagan, she would accept the opportunity with alacrity.

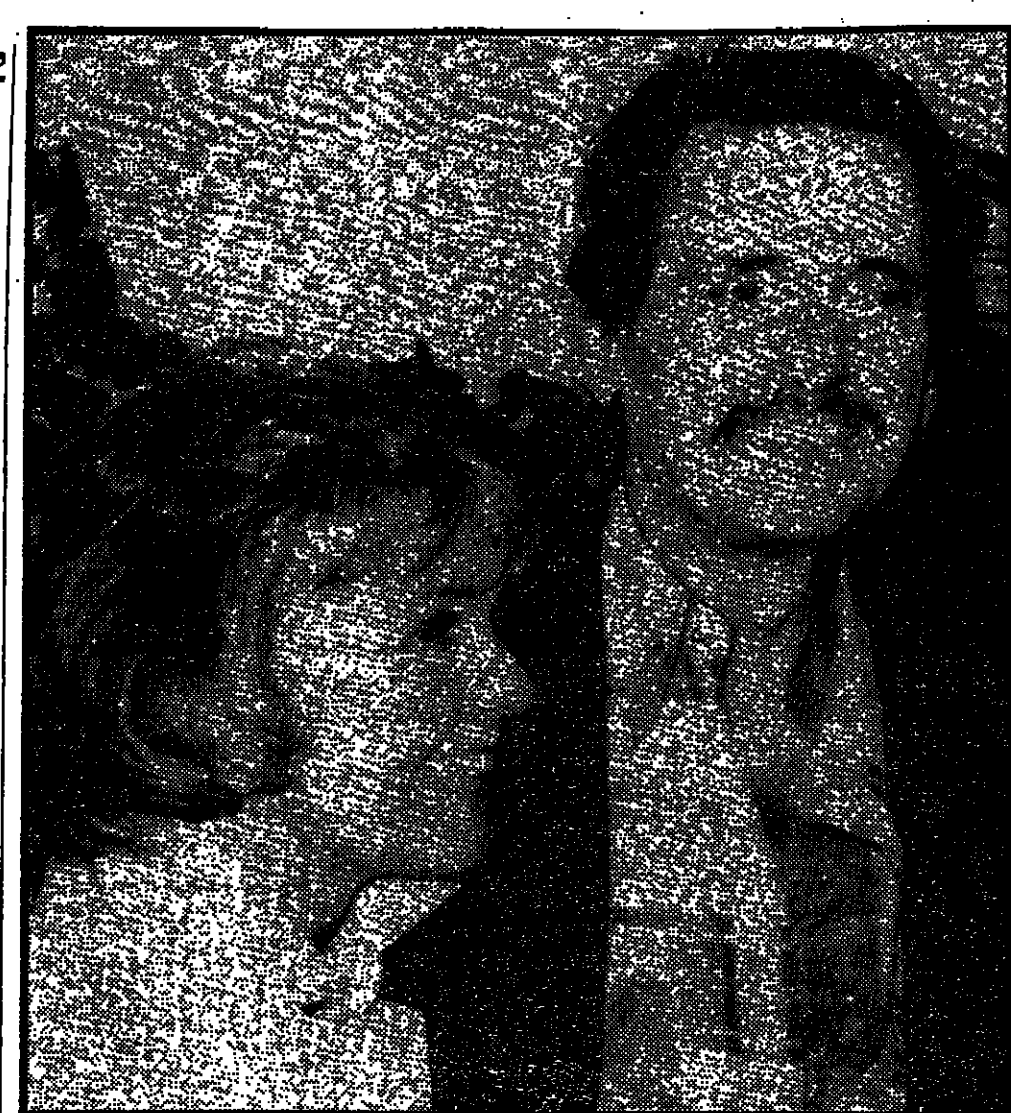
Thatcher was one of the few leaders to call the White House during Mr Reagan's cancer operation, and talked at some length with the White House chief-of-staff, Mr Donald Reagan.

The Prime Minister, in her scheduled meetings with Mr Bush, Mr Weinberger, and the National Security Adviser, Mr Robert McFarlane, is also expected to review the prospects for the next round of arms control talks in Geneva.

Mr McFarlane has recently been widely optimistic in public about the new round, following an apparent Soviet willingness to listen at the last session of talks.

The Thatcher Government is clearly determined to get a share of the Star Wars technology as quickly as possible. But it wants the understanding between the US and Britain to be the same as on earlier high-technology defence projects, with British scientists and defence officials given top-secret clearance and access to American technology.

Although no one is publicly saying so, the turnout for the International Democratic Union conference, an effort to emulate the strength of the Socialist International, must be regarded as disappointing. Several important leaders who originally pledged to come, including Chancellor Helmut Kohl of West Germany and the Canadian Prime Minister, Mr Brian Mulroney, have cried off in recent days.



THE film star Rock Hudson, said by his press spokesman, was suffering from cancer of the liver, saying that the results of the tests would not be available until today.

He said that Mr Hudson was tired and had undergone tests including a complete body scan.

In Los Angeles, Hudson's press spokesman, Dale Olson, told reporters that Hudson was in a critical condition with internal liver cancer and was slipping in and out of a coma.

The hospital official did not confirm or deny that the 59-year-old actor, pictured above with Doris Day, was suffering from cancer of the liver, saying that the results of the tests would not be available until today.

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## US may not ratify Geneva protocols

From Iain Guest in Geneva

SENIOR officials at the International Committee of the Red Cross have been warned by the Reagan Administration that the US may not ratify important revisions to the Geneva Convention following recommendations by US military chiefs.

The warning is seen here as a potentially devastating blow to the revisions, which take the form of two additional protocols to the 1949 Geneva Conventions.

The protocols were drawn up and adopted during a conference here between 1974 and 1977. The aim is to extend greater protection to civilians during international wars and also internal conflicts.

In the past eight years, the two protocols have been ratified by 51 and 44 states respectively. Of the great powers, only China has so far ratified and there is doubt that the Soviet Union would also remain aloof if the US decides not to ratify.

Red Cross officials fear that this could seriously weaken the conventions and the Red Cross itself—in key areas of the Middle East and Africa. The conventions are being openly violated in the Gulf War by Iran and Iraq which have abused prisoners of war and shelled civilian targets.

Ironically, the first hint of US unhappiness with the protocols came recently while the Red Cross President, Alexander May, was discussing the TWA hijacking with President Reagan.

The Red Cross subsequently played a key role in arranging the release of the hijacked American hostages. The significance of the two protocols lies in the fact that they extend the definition of war and hence of the protection afforded to civilians by the conventions.

Protocol one broadens the definition of international armed conflict. To include wars of liberation and struggles by "peoples fighting colonial domination and racist regimes." It also leaves it up to regional organisations like the OAU to decide whether a struggle is legitimate.

Protocol two extends to civil wars which are taking an increasingly heavy toll of civilians. A civil war is defined loosely by the amount of territory under the control of insurgents.

SECURITY experts of seven major industrial countries at a meeting in Bonn yesterday discussed anti-hijack measures, including the boycott of Beirut airport proposed by Washington.

Officials stressed that the senior civil servants gathered would not take any decision, but return home to advise their governments on recommendations put forward at the two-day meeting.

The conference is discussing measures for the restoration of air safety in connection with the American measures, a West German official said. He added that European governments, including the British, were "much more reluctant" than the Americans with regard to a boycott of Beirut.

British sources, however, spoke of London's support for the American position. Bonn officials stressed that even Mrs Thatcher, while expressing her basic support for measures taken by the United States, had made it clear that any action had to be coordinated among European countries.

Lebanon's Middle East Airlines flies three times a week to Frankfurt but has no flights to Britain. Both Lufthansa and British Airways stopped flying to Beirut some time ago.

Chancellor Helmut Kohl earlier this month pledged West German cooperation in drawing up measures to combat international terrorism, but later dismissed the question of withholding landing rights for MEA.

The seven countries — the United States, Canada, France, West Germany, Britain, Italy, and Japan — agreed in 1978 to halt flights to and from countries refusing to prosecute or extradite hijackers, or to return hijacked aircraft.

## Rainbow accused 'had false passports'

Berne: Swiss passports held by a man and a woman charged in New Zealand with murder in the sinking of the Rainbow Warrior are false, the Swiss Government said yesterday.

A Swiss spokesman said the Justice and Police Ministry had no record of the names Alain and Sophie Turenne given by the pair when they were arrested last week.

The spokesman said by the couple were false. These people do not exist in our records, he said.

The couple were refused bail yesterday when they appeared in court in Auckland, New Zealand.

They are accused of planting bombs that sank the Rainbow Warrior, owned by the Greenpeace environmental organisation, in Auckland harbour on July 10 and murdering photographer Fernando Pereira who died in the blast.

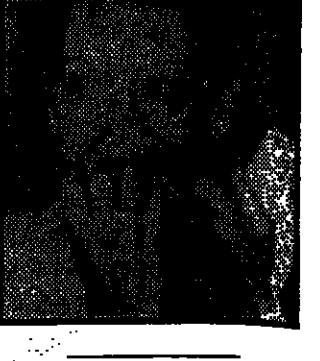
The Swiss spokesman said the identity of the pair had not been established and it was not known whether they were Swiss. He added that a team of investigators was expected to arrive in Switzerland from New Zealand in the next few days.

The defendants, who were pale and whiskered to each other during proceedings, made a brief appearance at Auckland district court yesterday. They were identified as Sophie Fredericque Claire Turenne, aged 36, and Alain Jacques Turenne, aged 33, but it is not known if they are Swiss relatives.

The man in charge of the investigation, Detective Superintendent Allan Galbraith, said yesterday that the court appearances did not mean he was scaling down his inquiries. Police arrested the pair last week for allegedly entering New Zealand illegally on June 22 and they are to appear in court again today, charged with five separate immigration violations.

Yesterday they entered no pleas when they were charged with murder, arson and conspiracy to commit arson. — Reuter.

● Alain Jacques Turenne (top) and Sophie Turenne: accused



## Dingo trial on review

From Alan Atkinson in Adelaide

The case of Lindy Chamberlain, whose trial in 1982 was one of the most controversial in Australian history, is expected to be reopened.

It is widely believed that a judicial inquiry is being considered by the Northern Territory state government.

Lindy Chamberlain stood trial in 1982, after two inquiries, accused of murdering her baby daughter, Azaria, at an Ayers Rock camp site in August, 1980. She was found guilty and jailed for life mainly on the basis of forensic evidence.

Her husband, a Seventh Day Adventist pastor, Michael Chamberlain, was freed after being found guilty as an accessory. Both denied the charges but claimed that a dingo and Azaria's body has never been found.

The prosecution case has been questioned by leading forensic and legal experts since the trial, and the Chamberlain Innocence Committee — comprising several prominent scientific and legal authorities — has been amassing counter-arguments for three years.



& Rambler

## Reports conflict as Pastora disappears

From Tony Jenkins in Managua

THE anti-Sandinista guerrilla leader, Eden Pastora, has disappeared and may have been shot down in a helicopter over Nicaragua, an official of his rebel force said in Costa Rica yesterday. But a cousin said that Mr Pastora is "healthy and safe" in Panama.

Hector Dario Pastora, secretary of an opposition group linked to Eden Pastora's fighting forces, said the helicopter's cousin was travelling in a developed engine trouble on Tuesday over Nicaragua, where Pastora is fighting the leftwing Sandinista regime.

He said Mr Pastora, known as "Commander Zero," then transferred to another helicopter and flew to Panama. "He is healthy and safe," he said.

Mr Pastora had been visiting his troops up to 150 miles inside Nicaragua when he disappeared. According to Mr Jose Davila, who leads the political wing of the rebel group Arde, Mr Pastora was returning to his base at Sarapiquí near the Costa Rican border when the pilot reported engine trouble.

"The communication was cut off suddenly, in a very brusque manner," Mr Davila said in a telephone interview from the Arde office in San Jose, Costa Rica. "Since 3.30 pm on Tuesday afternoon we

have had no contact and we are very worried."

The Sandinistas have been attacking Sarapiquí since Sunday. If they capture it, it would be the ninth Arde base to fall since the Sandinistas launched an offensive on May 26. However the Defence Ministry here says that no army unit has reported firing on an enemy helicopter and that it has no information on Commander Zero's whereabouts.

● Mr Eden Pastora

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Concessions to the Akali Dal  
raise cheers in Parliament

# Gandhi signs pact with Sikhs to end Punjab strife

From Ajay Bose in New Delhi

An historic accord was signed yesterday by the Prime Minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, and Sant Harchand Singh Longowal, president of the Sikh militant party, the Akali Dal, intended to settle four years of strife in Punjab.

The two leaders signed a memorandum of settlement of various demands of more religious and political autonomy for Sikhs after two days of hectic consultations between representatives of the government and the Akali Dal.

Sant Longowal, who had two rounds of talks with Mr Gandhi, said after the signing of the Prime Minister's office that he "was fully satisfied with the settlement."

A period of confrontation had ended in Punjab, said the militant leader, who was arrested during the army operation in the Golden Temple last year but released a few months ago as part of a peace initiative by Mr Gandhi.

The Prime Minister also expressed his pleasure at the settlement as he announced the terms and conditions of the accord in parliament amid thunderous cheers from both ruling party and opposition benches.

According to the settlement, the government has agreed to rehabilitate all those charged from the army during the mutiny by Sikh soldiers last year shortly after the Golden Temple operation.

While the memorandum did not specifically mention the fate of mutineers who have already been sentenced to imprisonment by a court martial, it is understood that they, too, will be pardoned and "provided gainful employment."

While conceding this long-standing demand of the Sikh militants, the government has also assured that there would be no discrimination against Sikhs in future recruitment in the Indian Armed Forces.

Another significant government concession relates to the Anandpur Sahib resolution passed by the Akali Dal which calls for autonomous status for Punjab. It has been referred to a commission which would go into its merits as a case of "centre-state relations" rather than an anti-national document which the government has been describing it as so far.

Other important areas of agreement between the Akali Dal and the government relates to the formulation of a bill to give more power to Sikh temple authorities, enhancing the scope of the earlier announced judicial inquiry into the anti-Sikh riots last November, compensation to innocent persons killed during the army operation, and the promotion of the Punjabi language in Punjab.

The government has further announced that it is withdrawing the armed forces special powers act in Punjab and limiting the scope of the special courts to cases of waging war and hijacking.

Sant Longowal was confident that the Sikhs would accept the accord. He said: "There is no question of going back on the accord which I have signed as our party is the only true Sikh party and I am the dictator of the Morcha (agitation)."

He said that the four-year-long agitation was being withdrawn forthwith, although he would formally ratify its withdrawal at a meeting of his party leaders later this month in Punjab.

Anti-terrorist measures were imposed on the western state of Gujarat yesterday to curb sectarian violence in which at least 37 people have been killed in the past week.

Police in the state's largest city, Ahmedabad, said they started enforcing an anti-terrorist act yesterday morning but gave no details of any arrests.

The law, which provides the death penalty for extremist acts that cause death and gives authorities broad powers to search houses and hold secret trials, was passed in May after a Sikh militant bomb campaign in New Delhi and surrounding areas.

At least four people were killed in Ahmedabad on Tuesday night in clashes provoked by protests against a policy reserving quotas for jobs and college places for poor classes and castes.



Prisoners released by Israel leave Alit military gao yesterday to board buses that carried them back to south Lebanon. Israel freed 100 detainees, mainly Shi'ite Muslims, and still holds 330. Meanwhile, Mr Nabih Berri, the Shi'ite leader, objected to the piecemeal release of prisoners.

## Israel toughens stand on terror

From Ian Black in Jerusalem

The government is introducing a number of tough new measures to improve internal security after a spate of recent Palestinian attacks inside Israel and in the occupied territories. The innovations will include much stiffer penalties for terrorist crimes.

The Prime Minister, Mr Shimon Peres, and the ministers of police, defence, and the interior, met yesterday to discuss the situation, which will be examined by the cabinet next week.

Officials said later that the ministers had reviewed a range of security, legal and preventive measures in the war against terrorism. They would not say if the use of the death penalty—which exists but is never implemented—was one of the options.

The Defence Minister, Mr Yitzhak Rabin, told MPs later that Israel needed "the tools for immediate punishment."

Mr Rabin is understood to favour expulsion from the country of certain classes of terrorist offenders.

Concern about internal security follows angry criticism from the right that Arabs are getting away with murder in attacks on Jews. Officials are also deeply aware that terror attacks are being exploited by Rabbi Meir Kahane's racist Kach movement, which wants the expulsion of all Arabs from Israel and the occupied territories.

In the northern town of Afula, searches continued yesterday for two teachers, missing since the beginning of the week, whose bloodstained car was found in the nearby West Bank town of Jenin. The two, a man and a woman, are widely assumed to have been murdered or kidnapped by Arabs. When their disappearance was discovered, Arabs working in Afula were attacked and Rabbi Kahane was quick to arrive in town to exploit the mood.

Last week, five small Jewish schoolchildren and their teacher were lacerated in the centre of Jerusalem by a West Bank man wielding a razor. In recent months there have been several cases of soldiers and civilians being murdered by Palestinians.

"Israel will use all possible political and military means to fight and defeat this despicable terror," Mr Peres said in the Knesset.

Mr Ariel Sharon, the Minister of Trade and Industry, claimed yesterday that Palestinians in the West Bank were encouraged to carry out terrorist attacks because they felt the weakness of the government.

President Herzog said yesterday that requests for pardons for the 15 members of a Jewish terrorist group sentenced earlier this week would be considered on their individual merits.

## Jordan envoy shot

From Mark Tran in Washington

The Administration yesterday presented to Congress its long awaited study on Middle East arms sales, setting the stage for contentious arms requests for Jordan and Saudi Arabia.

The Under-Secretary of State for Security Assistance, Mr William Schneider, and Lt-General Philip Gast of the Pentagon's Defence Security Assistance Agency, met members of the House Foreign Affairs Committee in a closed briefing. They discussed a "threat analysis" of the danger posed to Israel by potential arms sales to Arab countries, and a similar examination of the threats to Jordan, mainly from Syria, and to Saudi Arabia, primarily from Iran and the Soviet Union.

The study, begun in March, was essentially a holding measure at a time when the Administration had to fight Congress on aid to the Nicaraguan rebels and the MX missile. Wary of fighting on too many fronts — arms sales to Jordan and Saudi Arabia would have sparked another big tussle — the Administration resorted to holding a review. That provided the diplomatic camouflage for putting off requests for the two countries.

With the main foreign aid fight behind it, the Administration is now in a position to concentrate on an issue which will need a big White House lobbying effort — similar to the campaign needed to force through the sale of AWACS surveillance aircraft to Saudi Arabia four years ago.

Congress has already signalled its firm opposition to arms sales to Jordan. In the Senate, 73 members signed a non-binding resolution opposing the sale of any advanced weapons so long as King Hussein "continues to oppose the Camp David Peace process and purchases arms from the Soviet Union."

The House has gone further by tacking on to the Foreign Aid Bill an amendment barring the sale of advanced aircraft, new air defences, or other advanced weapons unless the President certifies to Congress that Jordan is publicly committed to the recognition of Israel and to prompt entry into direct peace negotiations with Israel.

The Administration has staunchly opposed these congressional moves and is wary of the failure to deliver, yet again, to King Hussein, yet again, the current peace efforts off course. The king and Yasser Arafat are trying to cobble together a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation that the Americans and Israelis would want to talk to. No PLO members would be included.

Last year, the Administration had to withdraw an arms package for Jordan it presented to Congress because it was not going to get through. In a huff, King Hussein turned to the Soviet Union for anti-aircraft equipment.

Witnesses said that the first secretary, Ziyad al-Sa'ad, was shot dead at the entrance of the Calvary embassy district while travelling to work.

They said that Mr Sa'ad, aged 43, was shot three times in the head, and died instantly. His attacker, described as short, dark-haired and aged about 25, fled.

An anonymous telephone caller to an international news agency in Ankara said in Turkish that the Islamic Jihad (Holy War) group killed Mr Sa'ad because he was a "servant of imperialism."

Police said that they found five empty handgun cartridges at the scene, and that some suspects had been detained for questioning. Airports and border posts were alerted, and police sealed off the Jordanian embassy.

In Amman, Jordan's Foreign Ministry said: "These criminal, cowardly acts... will not deter Jordan from continuing its national duty and serving Arab issues and the Palestinian cause." — Reuter.

## Arms for Arabs under scrutiny

From Mark Tran in Washington

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Last year, the Administration had to withdraw an arms package for Jordan it presented to Congress because it was not going to get through. In a huff, King Hussein turned to the Soviet Union for anti-aircraft equipment.

## India gaols officers for selling secrets

New Delhi: Three retired officers were sentenced to 10 years' rigorous imprisonment yesterday on charges of selling Soviet military secrets to the United States.

High Court Judge K. B. Andley, announcing the judgment, said that the three, who were arrested in November 1983, were guilty of a conspiracy involving the leakage of top state secrets.

It was the first official public mention of the United States since the spy case was unearthed in 1983.

Local news reports have said that the CIA was the recipient of classified information on India's Soviet-supplied arms.

The three convicted were Major-General F. D. Larkins, his elder brother, Air Vice-Marshal K. H. Larkins, and Lieutenant-Colonel Jasbir Singh. A fourth suspect, an arms dealer, Jaspal Singh Gill, was sentenced to two years' gaol in connection with the espionage, reportedly uncovered after an air force officer alerted his superiors that Larkins had asked him to supply classified manuals for Soviet MIG jets used in the Indian Air Force.

In January, the government disclosed the country's biggest spy scandal — the leakage of state secrets to France, the Soviet Union, East Germany, and Poland. — AP.

## Black SA resistance leaders go into hiding to elude arrest

From Patrick Laurence in Johannesburg

As the number of people detained under emergency regulations rose to 665 yesterday, it was evident that several of the more prominent leaders of the United Democratic Front had gone into hiding and eluded the security forces.

Preliminary analysis of the list of 665 names and addresses by the Detainee Parents Support Committee showed that most of the detainees are local leaders known to their immediate communities, and presumably to local security policemen.

The DPSC is convinced that the security forces have a list of people they want to detain, but that the national leaders who are not among the 35 UDF leaders facing charges of treason anticipated that they would be detained when the state of emergency came into operation and went into hiding.

But not all the nationally known leaders escaped the first sweeps by security police. National leaders already in

terned include Mr Ram Saloojee and Mr Ismael Momoniat, both executive members of the Transvaal Indian Congress, Mr Patrick Maphumbe, an executive member of the UDF in the Transvaal.

The assumption that the security police have a list of people wanted for the detention is based on the speed with which the police processed people who were on buses intercepted by police on their return from a mass funeral in the Eastern Cape at the weekend.

Scrutiny by the DPSC of the list of detainees released to the press, as promised by the Commissioner of Police, General Johan Coetzee, indicates four major categories of detainees. Dr Max Coleman, chairman of the DPSC, said, "Dr Coleman, whose son, Neil, is among the detainees, named local leaders in township civic associations and youth congresses as the 'prime target' of the security forces."

Of almost equal importance, however, are members of the

## 'Rebel held' in search of Nkomo's homes

From Andrew Meldrum in Harare

Zimbabwe authorities have raided two houses of the opposition leader, Mr Joshua Nkomo, seizing six legally registered guns from his Bulawayo home on Tuesday and taking into custody 11 guards from his Harare house yesterday.

The Security Minister, Mr Emmerson Mnangagwa, said security forces captured the arms of the new to the house of Mr Nkomo in Bulawayo. "Nkomo was present when we arrested the dissident but he said nothing," the minister told Parliament.

Mr Nkomo, contacted by telephone at his Harare home, said he had heard nothing about this nonsense. "What is a dissident anyway? These are all lies and they are mad."

This is the start of a campaign against Mr Nkomo (Home Affairs Minister) Enos Nkala. Mr Nkomo said after his homes were searched, "Zanu is behind this conspiracy to harass me. It is part of the campaign for a one-party state and they see me as the stumbling block."

Mr Nkomo claimed that the seizure of his weapons and the arrest of the men guarding his house left him without any protection. He said the police actions were part of a plot to have him assassinated.

Following the raids on his houses, Mr Nkomo met President Canaan Banana for an hour.

In 1983, Mr Nkomo's house was searched and his chauffeur shot in a scuffle, prompting Mr Nkomo to flee Zimbabwe because he said his life was in danger from agents of Mr Robert Mugabe's party.

On Monday, Mr Nkomo attended a reception to mark the opening of the new parliament, and spoke jovially with Mr Mugabe and Mr Banana.

Mr Mugabe has repeatedly claimed that Mr Nkomo is an enemy of his government because he and his opposition Zanu party support the rebels. Mr Nkomo has denied this, accusing Mr Mugabe of using the dissidents as an excuse to oppress Nkomo supporters in Matabeleland.

### NEWS IN BRIEF

## Cardinal calls for poll delay

THE leader of Uganda's Roman Catholic Church yesterday urged President Milton Obote to dissolve the government and postpone elections because of moves by rebellious army units to cut off the northern part of the country.

Cardinal Emmanuel Nsubuga, in a letter sent to Ugandan newspapers, said that rebel troops had overpowered the army in one district and set up numerous roadblocks across the north.

He said that President Obote should allow formation of a broad-based caretaker government and postpone general elections until next year, in the hope that the conflict would ease. Voter registration is to begin on Monday for an election that is to take place later this year.

## My son, the Arab

A 51-year-old Israeli Jew ran away from home and assumed the identity of an Arab because his father kept shouting the army had overpowered the army in one district and set up numerous roadblocks across the north.

He said that President Obote should allow formation of a broad-based caretaker government and postpone general elections until next year, in the hope that the conflict would ease. Voter registration is to begin on Monday for an election that is to take place later this year.

## On trial

FORMER president Jaafar Numairi's top aide, Baha Eddin Idris, will go on trial on Saturday charged with embezzlement and harming Sudan's economy and sovereignty, an official newspaper reported yesterday. Idris, who had been presidential affairs minister before Numairi was deposed in an army coup in April, was also accused of squandering public money. — Reuter.

## Officers gaoled

TWO Spanish army officers were gaoled yesterday by a court martial in Saragossa for staging the mock firing squad execution of a village mayor and more anti-government demonstrators. Captain Carlos Aleman and Lieutenant Jaime Iniguez will serve five and four months respectively in a military prison. — Reuter.

## Odds still on

MACAO's punters will be able to place bets as usual after the Portuguese-run territory reverts to Chinese rule, a pro-Peking newspaper editor said yesterday. Li Pangchu, deputy general editor of the Macao Daily, told reporters that a Chinese official had assured him in Peking this month that gambling would be allowed to continue. — Reuter.

## Activist gaoled

A SOVIET Jewish activist and member of an unofficial peace group has been arrested pending trial on hotheaded charges carrying a maximum penalty of five years' imprisonment, a member of his family said in Moscow. Vladimir Brodsky had been due to stand trial, but the case was postponed. — Reuter.

## Flying ads

A PLANE trailing a banner advertising condoms will fly over beaches in New York beginning this weekend. Mr George Gori, an executive of the manufacturers, said that the condoms are banned by radio and television. An estimated four million bathers would see the banner. — AP.

## Sex course

A SHANGHAI magazine has inaugurated China's first course on sex education and 1,000 students are enrolled, the overseas edition of the People's Daily reported in Peking yesterday. — AP.

## Nuclear-free plea

PRESIDENT Todor Zhivkov (below), of Bulgaria, said yesterday that the creation of a nuclear-free Balkan zone should be given top priority by governments in the area. Speaking at the end of a three-day visit to Greece, Mr Zhivkov said that such a zone could be the first step towards a nuclear-free Europe. — Reuter.

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## Balancing the books after the Cultural Revolution

From Jim Mann in Peking

Wang Yushang, stooped, unshaven, and wearing baggy proletarian clothing, was rummaging recently through a pile of books at Peking's No 77 middle school when he came across a family photo album that had been seized by Red Guards from his house nearly two decades ago.

Opening the book, Mr Wang, aged 80, first trembled then burst into laughter. "This is me," he exclaimed, pointing to a picture of a barrel-chested man in his thirties, stylishly dressed in a double-breasted Western suit. "These are my two younger sisters. These are my two older brothers. They are all dead now."

Feverishly, he kept hunting, and within a few minutes he had uncovered the baby book he and his wife once kept for their first daughter, including a silk-enclosed sample of her first baby hair. He also found more lost albums, with wedding pictures and 19th-century pictures of his grandparents.

The books Mr Wang found were among 70,000 volumes put on display from last week to help Peking residents locate and reclaim materials seized from homes during the Cultural Revolution.

The display fills eight white-walled classrooms at the school. There are histories of the imperial dynasties and records of China's natural disasters, encyclopedias, dictionaries, books of poetry, pictures of jade seals and hand-written Buddhist sutras.

Leaving through the printed volumes, one finds class yearbooks for Christian missionary schools from the 1920s and 1930s, a guide to

for China's Nationalist Government in the 1940s, and piano books and history texts printed in Russian from the 1920s.

At the beginning of the Cultural Revolution in 1966, young Red Guards went from house to house, seeking to eradicate all vestiges of what they called the four olds — old ideas, old customs, old culture and old habits. Nothing better exemplified the four olds than books.

Many of the volumes taken from people's homes were destroyed, but some were saved and kept in warehouses. These officials are now trying to return to their original owners.

"If a person can reclaim 30 per cent of his books, we consider that very good," said Mr Zhang Zhiyuan, director of the office for goods ransacked during the Cultural Revolution.

This is the second time that Mr Zhang's staff of 10 has put such books on display. On the first occasion, last August, officials brought out about 100,000 volumes, and 32,000 were reclaimed.

The Guangming daily reported last week that there were still 170,000 books, paintings, calligraphy scrolls and pictures in Peking that officials were trying to return to their owners.

Zhang and his aides estimates that between 800 and 1,000 families from Peking's western district will come to the school before the week is out to search for lost books.

Many of those who come are very old. One, Mr Wu Tuzan, said he was 102, a former art professor, and a specialist in ancient Chinese porcelain.

Other, younger Peking residents come looking for the books taken from parents or grandparents who have died.

Not everyone is lucky. "This was my stamp collection," said a middle-aged woman with tears in her eyes. She showed authorities a well-bound book from which all the stamps had been ripped out.

Mr Wang, a tax collector in pre-revolutionary China, now bespectacled and painfully emaciated, said he is lucky to be alive today. "It was very difficult for me to survive the Cultural Revolution," he said. Asked what had happened, he replied: "Well, I was not beaten to death."

By official Chinese accounts, the Cultural Revolution ended after the death of Mao Tse-tung in 1976. Asked why it has taken so long to return the books, Mr Zhang said: "Without the correction of the wrong political line, such a thing could not be done."

— Los Angeles Times.



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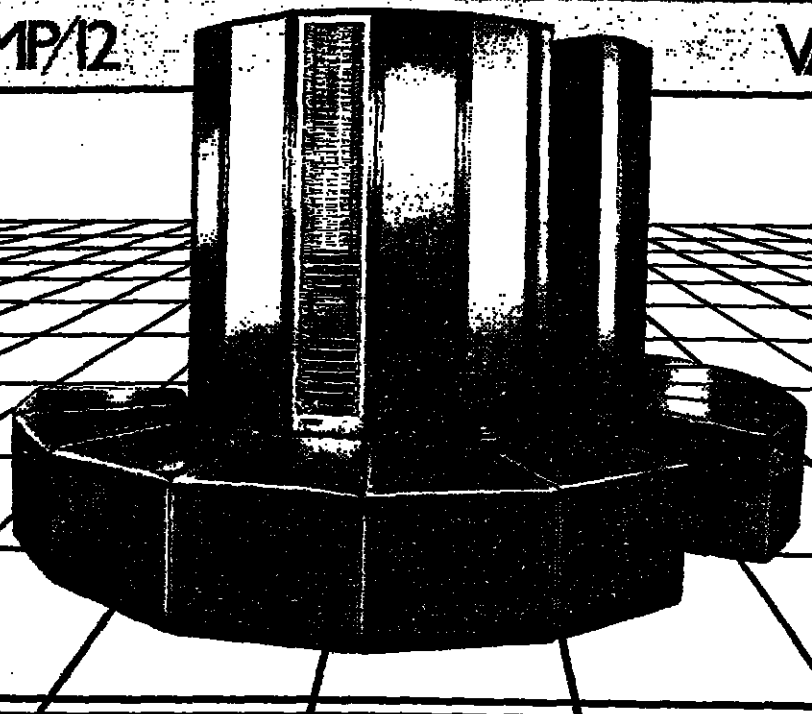
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### USER SUPPORT CONSULTANT

Reporting to the head of User Support, this position involves acting as an interface between systems software staff and the users. You will assist the latter to gain maximum benefit from the new installation and will become involved in enhancing and implementing graphics capabilities. You must be a numerate graduate preferably with experience of VMS and graphics. Some knowledge of COS is required but local expertise will be available and suitable further training provided. An ability to relate to users' problems and requirements based on experience as a user is also essential.

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### USER SUPPORT DEPARTMENT

#### Programmer Analyst (Allocation and Control) (US 85/4)

The User Support Department is the main interface between users and the computing service. It provides advisory documentation and user education services. The Department also supports a wide range of compilers, graphics and applications packages and libraries.

A Programmer Analyst is required to join the team dealing with the administration of the computer resources at the Centre. The work includes day-to-day running of the allocation and control systems, monitoring the usage of all resources, responsibility for aspects of data security at the Centre and technical liaison with users and institution representatives. As part of the general user support services some contribution will be expected in the areas of technical documentation, user education and advisory. Graduates or postgraduates with programming experience in a high level language would be preferred.

Salary will be commensurate with age relevant qualifications and experience within the range £5,800 to £12,150 (under review) plus London Allowance of £1,233.

### NETWORKS & COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

#### Section Head (NC 85/3)

The Networks and Communications Department is involved in an ambitious programme for the development of front-end facilities (packet switching, protocol conversion and network interfaces to main frames) and the implementation under MVS of the academic community's high level protocols (for job submission, file transfer, mail and terminal access). Plans are being made for enhanced capabilities using high bandwidth local and wide-area network technologies and for the eventual transition to ISO protocols.

There is a vacancy in the Networks and Communications Department for a Section Head to lead a number of development activities. Applicants should have technical skills in areas relevant to the Department's work and the necessary project management capabilities. Academic qualifications to degree level are required.

Salary will be commensurate with age relevant qualifications and experience within the range £14,135 to £17,705 (under review) plus London Allowance of £1,233.

Applications for the above two posts will close three weeks after publication of this advertisement.

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Further particulars and Application Form may be obtained from:

The Secretary, Amateur Swimming Association, Harold Fern House, Derby Square, Loughborough LE11 6AD, Leics.

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CONTINUED ON  
PAGE 14





Pictures at the Skin Two club by GRAHAM TURNER

The search for fresh material is taking a new generation of designers into some pretty strange areas. Sarah Mower walks warily in their wake

## Rubber solution

AT 11.30 last Thursday night in a club on Old Bond Street a congregation of all sexes met to view the clothes of a new generation of designers who work exclusively in rubber. The members of the club, Skin Two, are, I was assured in advance, "very friendly, nice people," but that didn't help much with the trepidation. How would it be to set foot in a world where fashion meets fetish and everyone might be more than a little peculiar?

Standing shoulder to shoulder in the packed and steamy space were young women in backless and bottomless dresses held together only by straps, young men showing their puny legs in leather hot pants, macho men clanking with studs and chains, middle-aged couples dressed to the nines, and a particularly spry older gentleman in a suit, fedora, turtle necked shirt with a camelia pinned to it, and very high heeled black boots.

I needn't have worried. Everyone chatted and looked at each other, drinking halves of lager and saying "Excuse me" and "Sorry" when they tried to squeeze past. To complete the cosy atmosphere, three girls in identical uniforms, perhaps hotel receptionists, slipped in and settled down with their handbags at the front to enjoy the show.

Taking part were Daniel James of Hyper Hyper, Karen Storey and Dave Edmond of Pure Sex at Kensington Market, Krystina Kitis of Ectomorph and Kim West, who sells at Western Styling, also in Kensington Market.

Truth to tell, their designs, seen en masse, have little shock value. We saw more bare back dresses, and other fastened by tight lacing from hem to neck. There were rubber jodhpurs, macs, leggings, bras, capes, fish-tail skirts, tottering about on ridiculously high heels, the models looked ungainly rather than erotic, and proceedings perked up considerably once the obvious S&M references



were over and we saw rubber worked into jolly fringed cowgirl jackets and dresses (Kim West) and fluted dresses (Krystina Kitis). There is, of course, nothing new about rubberwear. In the past it's been produced by secretive firms and sold through catalogues to please goodness knows who's special tastes. The difference now is that young designers, working on a wave of increasing acceptability, are selling quite openly to a clientele who are more interested in trendiness than deviant sexuality. Even the ladies at Vogue have thought it proper to introduce their readers to rubber frocks.

The new designers stress an over-riding interest in experimentation with a fresh material rather than a desire to outrage public decency. "To me, rubber has never been controversial," claims Daniel James. "I just wanted to see something happen with it. It's a natural product and it looks like nothing else." Krystina Kitis doesn't deny the risqué image of her work, admitting, "I still have problems when I tell people I use rubber; they associate it with S&M and they can't visualise it any other way. Rubber has an aesthetic quality and unique properties. I like the way it moulds the body but doesn't constrict

it. I'm using it as I would any other fashion material." Kim West, too, is aiming to take rubber beyond taboo. "I'd like to make it clear that I don't disapprove of the club scene, but I'm not abstaining from the fetish thing now. I just think rubber is an interesting fabric. It doesn't have to be skin-tight — you can cut it so it falls like silk — better than silk." Whatever the designers' intentions, the response has been an almost overwhelming demand from their customers. And whatever their disclaimers, there are still those — prudes and feminists alike — who will take alarm at the move of classic "porno-

graphy" iconography into mainstream fashion. Grace Lau, a scientific photographer who also works on Skin Two magazine protests: "There are a lot of feminists involved in this. I am one myself. I don't see how women can object — after all, the scenario is men being dominated by women. You have to be strong. I've been through the dungaree phase and at the moment I like to dress like this. It's a matter of choice. When I dress up I feel free, liberated. I enjoy the fact that it turns men on. I only do it in the right circumstances. I don't want to provoke a reaction from Mr Average."

Ms X, a freelance journalist and a feminist who isn't involved in the club scene, found herself buying a Daniel James rubber dress some months back, and has so far remained uncorrupted by it. She says her £25 was an investment in enjoyment and a good few laughs.

"Men I'd known for years looked at me in a whole new way. I went to a concert with an old friend, and when I took my coat off, he nearly fainted. What I like is that it makes me feel safe — they can look, but there's no way they can get into that dress!"

The comic bits come with the ritual of getting the dress

on, and caring for it. "You have to make sure you're completely dry, then cover yourself with talcum powder and then inch it on," she explains, using leather. "Then, it's a squirt of Miss Dior behind the ears and out with the Mr Sheen — you have to stand there and polish yourself up! It's really very silly and not at all erotic."

Those who remain unconvinced of the savouriness or "soundness" of the rubber trend should perhaps remind themselves that this is only the latest borrowing from "dubious" sources in the history of fashion. Who remembers the "kinky" boots of the Sixties, and who would now raise an eyebrow at a woman who wears a pair of high heeled leather boots in the street? And surely the affectation of combat jackets and other military, or the wearing of Baby Doll frills and flounces is no less ideologically dodgy?

As Krystina Kitis points out: "Rubber is now something on the periphery of fashion and fetishism. The sexual allure of it is still highly taboo. But eventually it will lose that — look what happened to leather. No designer would doubt the validity of using leather, now the associations have gone."

Doubtless, for the devotees of Skin Two, and for others who take rubber very seriously, its potency will remain. In the meanwhile, fashion gives the rest of us the chance to dress a bit camp around, and have a bit of a joke with self imagery — and where's the harm in that?

**Ectomorph** (Krystina Kitis) from Quasmodomo, 239 King's Road, London SW3.

**Kim West** from Western Styling, Kensington High Street, London W8.

**Daniel James, Hyper Hyper**, Kensington High Street, London W8.

**Pure Sex**, Kensington Market; **Oasis Corporation**, Street, Birmingham. Prices £20 upwards.

Jose Manser dips into the new Habitat catalogue, designed with city slickers in mind

## Up from the country, rarin' to go to town

IF YOU took last year's Habitat catalogue to heart, your home is likely to be sporting the Country look: pine, oak and ash furniture from the 1985 Quaker range, and great baskets of dried flowers.

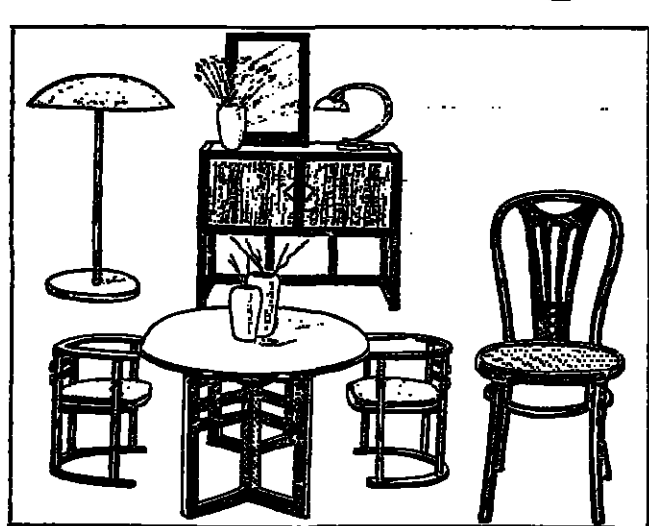
Well, here's news for you. The 1986 catalogue is due out at the end of August, and this year its emphasis is on City Living. Not that the Country look is abandoned. Rest easy in your multi-draped pine four-poster. All the country props are very much present in this new catalogue, and available in the stores. It's simply that Habitat, wizards of the market place that they are, have devised another, alternative way of life for those who are bored with the country, never liked it anyway, or want to bring a bit of city slickery to a suburban maisonette.

City Living, an almost unalloyed harmony of black, white, grey and chrome, is essentially chic, sophisticated and based around a furniture range called Strasse. Design-conscious will have no difficulty in tracing this range's antecedents back to Josef Hoffmann. Oris (Habitat's) No matter, the silhouettes may be profitable, but the pedigree is excellent, and the look most satisfactorily reflects a Secessionist influence which has been felt in the design world for some time and which

now, thanks to Habitat, is sweeping into the High Street. The tables, sideboard and curved-back chairs of the Strasse collection are all in black stained wood and so is a complementary bentwood chair called Tivoli which might well have emerged from the Thonet workshops in that same fecund, turn-of-century period. These main elements are augmented by chromed or matt black lamps, elegantly attenuated vases (the vase having come into its own as an ornament rather than just a receptacle for flowers), and of course fabrics and bed linen. The bed linen — in such colourways as palest yellow and grey with a narrow black line, or grey and white with fine red piping, or white on white — is particularly successful.

Habitat, as is their wont, do not leave you to wallow in this lot. The 20 catalogue pages devoted to City Living are packed with the most inspiring suggestions for its exploitation and arrangement, with a whole sub-strata of glasses (new flutes with simple etched patterns), china, and cutlery drawn into the skillfully woven web.

What a relief, then, to let Habitat do the thinking. For that's what it amounts to. This fiendishly clever piece of marketing (to be repeated in ensuing catalogues, I understand, until they run out of "looks") is



Main items in Habitat's City Living range clockwise from top left: chromed steel solar lamp, floor £49.95, table £39.95; sideboard £249; bentwood chair (Tivoli chair) £32.50; stained ash and beech chairs with whitelgrey check fabric seat covers, £79; dining table £249.

a most useful customer service. If my dream of a studio apartment in New York were to come true next month, I'd waste no time in pounding the streets searching for furniture and accoutrements, but choose the whole lot in half an hour flat from the City Living pages of this new catalogue. I wouldn't end up with a place

which was pushing out the farthest frontiers of design, but one which was coherent, got together, and stylish down to the last detail.

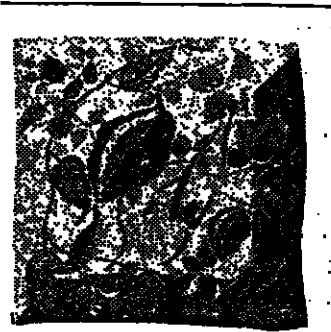
This spotlighting of a style and its skillful portrayal is a major Habitat strength and one on which they are wisely capitalising. Those of us who do not have the time, the incli-

nation, or perhaps most important, the confidence to design strong and successful interiors, are finding it seductively easy to rely on the Habitat catalogue for guidance; not necessarily to achieve a total City Living odyssey, but to give our existing rooms a rejuvenating boost with some of its components.

Habitat's other major strength is its chairman, Habitat/Mothercare's big business now. Last year's turnover was £446,733,000, and the France chain of book and record stores in France was recently drawn into the retailing empire. Nevertheless, Terence Conran, who sits triumphantly on top of this bulky heap (as well as being involved in development and publishing companies), probably keeps a closer watch on its detailed workings than any other business man in a similarly strong position.

City Living was launched in the press yesterday in the glamorous but mildly incongruous setting of Claridge's ballroom which Sir Terence had earlier been invited by his staff to sanction. He took one look, yelled a horrified: "Chandeliers! Cover them up immediately!" and departed. So these anachronistic artefacts were duly swathed in fabric for the occasion, proving that no detail is too insignificant for his attention.

## Style file



SOME fashion fanatics believe there's an art to wearing clothes well, but for others being swathed in a Fiancee or Renzo, even if it is a cotton T-shirt, is the all-important thing — perhaps it's as near as they'll ever get to owning the real thing.

Many major London galleries caught on to the idea of printing a sample of the work currently on show on to T-shirts and sweatshirts as a way of expanding sales in their shops normally limited to publications, posters and postcards. Renzo, Degas,

Picasso and Elizabeth Frink T-shirts are among those printed in the past and a David Hockney T-shirt will be available to coincide with the Hockney Paints The Stage exhibition starting at the Hayward on August 1.

But as long ago as the 1930s artists were designing prints to be used in clothing and shows here is a scarf designed by leading British artist, Patrick Heron, who is showing a retrospective exhibition at the Barbican Art Gallery until September 1.

The silk crepe-de-chine scarf was designed by Heron when he was 14 in 1924 and was manufactured by his father's firm Cresta Silks.

And instant art to wear was produced last Spring at the Paris Biennale where New York artist Keith Haring painted straight on to a plain white T-shirt worn by models which were then taken off and sold to an eager if gullible audience for £1,000 each. — I hope they didn't run in the wash.

GILLIAN BOWE

Sylvia Steele drops in on a specialist boutique that prides itself on its ability to keep in shape

## Contour lines

IN retailing to move from a general drapery shop to an exclusive, specialist boutique in South Molton Street in the West End with a Royal Warrant to boot represents a radical change in style.

It was one June Kenton always meant to make. When she left school, at 16, she helped in her family's three ladies' outfitters in North London. She was usually assigned to the hosiery counter but even then much preferred corsetry, an unusual taste for a young girl in the 1950s.

When she married in 1962 June and her husband, Harold, opened their own shop in Market Row, Brixton. They were both North Londoners determined to stand on their own feet even if it meant moving south of the Thames where they could afford premises.

"We worked very, very hard," June recalls. Within two years they had expanded into three adjacent shops.

In 1964 the Kentons moved to Croydon and opened a second shop there. When the Whitgift Centre was built in 1970 they took a new shop upstairs close to Marks and Spencer. This shop was called Contour and realised June's ambition to sell corsetry and swimsuits together with lingerie offering a proper fitting and alteration service.

Then in 1977 the owner of the former Corset Boutique in Hans Road beside Harrods retired and Contour came to Knightsbridge.

With their specialist business established, the Kentons sold their original shops and devoted themselves to their corsetry.

The business seemed complete but unexpectedly in 1982 June heard that Mrs Sident, owner of Rigby & Peller in South Molton Street and holder of the Royal Warrant, also wished to retire.

She decided to buy the business because Rigby & Peller had the last made-to-measure corsetry workshop in London and she was determined to keep it going. Although all three shops offer an alteration service, only Rigby & Peller has the made-to-measure workshop which employs seven specialist corsetry makers. Between them the shops can fit any woman, regardless of her size.

After having had three lumpectomies herself, June Kenton appreciates the needs of mastectomy patients. Every shape and size of prosthesis is always kept in stock in all three branches. June has experienced first hand the anguish women (and sometimes their husbands) can suffer after this operation, especially when the appliance officer in the hospital where she was treated has failed to give the patient the correct fitting prosthesis.

June insists on finding the perfect bra first and then the prosthesis. Among the wide range of bras and bras which she always stocks styles which are suitable for mastectomy patients and have special fast-drying swim pads. She wants a woman to like it and feel good and not because it is the only one in the shops that she can wear.

At least three manufacturers deliver extra fabric with their rangers enabling the customer to choose. As open heart surgery comes more common, demand for high frill swimsuits to cover the shoulder blades has increased. "It's a lovely thing to have a swimsuit with a skirt," she says. "It's not always easy to find a swimsuit that is not a but a woman must be a bit of a perfectionist."

Styles for long and short bodied women, even two mothers and a daughter, are two interesting numbers. "I'm a regular stock any size in can be altered and I was found for one of the most of forensic measurements."

Rigby & Peller's (Seventh Day) first floor, 239 King's Road, London SW3, is a treasure trove of the Queen's corsetry — the changes where they will in their tent, basque to go and white wedding dress case the proportions. — experts are

In the last 30 years the Chamberlain's corsetry has changed. Now rural promiscuous boning and lace-trimmed corsetry are almost a thing of the past. — three years ago, girls are almost larger busts, of small size bras, DD cups. Proper corsetry is a thing of the past. — from puberty on few women wear size bras and in the backache, and the fidelity that good can bring.

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# GUARDIAN BOOKS

## Beaton's quest for betterment

Emma Tennant on a pungent suave



### Merits of ferrets

The Complete Book of Ferrets by Val Forster and Nicholas Brown (Pelham, £9.95).

FERRETS are bloodthirsty, restless, pink-eyed, prone to heat-stroke, foot-rot and baldness. They dislike the bread and milk they are usually fobbed off with, cannot digest a vegetarian diet. Some of their near relatives like the wolverine and ratel, or honey badger (guard your testicles!), are beyond the pale.

They also sink as any felines or mustelids will do when cooped up, a fact strongly conveyed to me when I briefly shared a room in Bangalore with two orphaned leopard cubs in a tea chest. And their sex life, in which the jill is apt to get badly scruffed, verges on frenzy.

There are those however who do, including the authors of this comprehensive book which covers everything from the ferret's domesticated origins (circa 400 B.C. as presently installed in a village near the Arctic circle in Alaska, Sorger's attention to detail in his world of rocks and stones is truly Poyntian, yet he feels compelled to reject it, for fear of offending the village sphere, needing his native Europe).

In the second novel, The Lesson of Mount-Saint-Victoire, Sorger as protagonist has been dropped, and instead we accompany the author of his story as he explores a certain mountain in Provence which was often painted by Cezanne, meanwhile recalling his efforts to write The Long Way Around and again educating himself in techniques of minute observation.

Child Story, the final piece, brings the whole to a satisfactory conclusion in that its narrator, who resembles both Sorger and Sorger's self-confessed male, now has something alive outside himself on which to concentrate, and about which to care, a daughter, growing from infancy to ten years old, a "co-conspirator" in this world where no one is at home.

Handke is eloquent on the subject of paternal love, and if

Cecil Beaton, by Hugo Vickers (Weidenfeld, £16.95).

ON THE cover of this authoritative biography of the polymath, Beaton is a posed snap of the subject in a coat that walked out of Lancret or a Fragonard, taking the cast along too; exquisite eighteenth century faces pause in mock-pastoral under the armpit; along either shoulder lie the sylvan glades and sharp-focus leaves of painted foliage; while a Roman bust on a plinth receives the divided attentions of the meteor-science, his eyes determinedly facing the camera.

We look at him, and are aware that with anyone else the extravagant pose (one finger in the plaster-cast ear, as a joke, a mark for the eyes, but set on the back of the head, which faces us) would seem silly, or simply pretentious. With Beaton, as becomes clear again and again in the excellent and moving biography, the pretence illuminates the reality beneath. Superficiality, of which Beaton was most regularly accused, and in which he accused himself as often, in his endless search for betterment, for greater profundity, was his oblique method of showing things as they, sometimes, are.

The "sometimes" of Beaton's life and art is worth remembering here. Sometimes, in this quest for betterment, a new ambition got the better of him, as when attempts of the most blatant kind were made to push poor Mrs Beaton into High Society, tips and whippers to the Times Court Pages, guest-list supplied, sisters Nancy and Baba the guinea-pigs for the first society photographs, and the hopes for them of a good marriage.

Born in 1904, growing up in Edwardian England, dragged in the weeds of its snobbery and complacency to the River Avon, the country-house parties where butlers carried out tea under the monkey-puzzle tree and Barrie's Fairies were in the rushes at the bottom of the garden, Beaton jumped in head first and floated down with the rest of them.

Sometimes, too, his manner was putting-off, a contemporary recalled, of Beaton's first acquaintances: "Very soon they deeply dreaded his forgetful flail on their carelessness." Soon they said "Can I stand any more of this pungent suave watching?" Yet most of the time Beaton was people, and put his mark on the world by making it a theatrical place — or, in his war photographs, when there was no need of theatre and the horrors of the world glared out from his lens, straight on, simple, pathetic — this complicated, contradictory man was kind, thoughtful and pleased with the happiness of others.

Sometimes, it's true, Beaton seemed incapable of finding happiness for himself. His unrequited love for Peter Watson, whose watery features and slanting eyes inspired the love of many (he was also the financial supporter of Horizon) drove Beaton to despair for nine years.

But how he worked. Portraits of Dietrich, the Sitwells, the first Royal Licensées — and it was always His or Her Royal Likeness that Beaton was so anxious to keep, then Doris Castles, with the million pound church and Lady Diana Cooper as six beautiful nuns together. And his next great love, Garbo.

How much this famous love affair, here described in full for the first time, failed or succeeded, is difficult to judge. It belongs to the frontiers of sexuality, and for that reason holds its fascination. Garbo, on meeting Beaton, remarked that if she were a young man there'd be no limit to the things she'd do to him, and then proceeded to do them (the affair was intensely physical), and sometimes not to Beaton's approval, as on the occasion of Garbo's arrival in the apartment, astriding Queen Christina who goes to pull shut the "mustard-yellow velvet curtains" without any preamble of a feminine kind.

There was another frontier too, where secrecy and publicity meet, and in this way no two people could have been drawn more disastrously to each other. Garbo hid Beaton's "passport photographs" of her and sent them against her will into the world. For the world, whether it was his Edwardian world re-created in his Fair Lady, or the world of his house in Wiltshire, where his mother looked after him and lived to the end — or the world of exciting strangers and where he was to be where Beaton had to be.



William Golding

### Golding's Egypt

by P. H. Newby

An Egyptian Journal, by William Golding (Faber, £12.95).

THERE is no lack of books about Egypt but few writers have been there with the idea of writing a personal journal for publication. This is not the usual travel book. It is more random. Even the antiquities are treated dismissively and as for history, well not much is made of it, certainly not so much as is made of the small boat Golding and his wife travelled in up the Nile. The Hani often excreted a quarter of a mile of black smoke and its propeller shaft hammered away at the bearings as they went.

They were accompanied by a crew of five and a dragoon. This sounds very grand, but what a Nobel Laureate, 72 years of age, and his wife are entitled to. But it was not grand at all. The two toilets did not work, it was February, there was fog, the nights were cold, there was no heating and for long stretches nothing to look at.

What lay beyond could not be seen, not even the Pyramids, because the Hani was so low in the water. Naturally Golding was not standing. The insights and profound thoughts that should be filling out his journal would ever come.

They never do, quite, but what does come is focus, a lot of brickyard, sugar refineries, barges loaded with limestone and hordes of healthy, jolly children quite different from the backslashed beggars of years ago. He is constantly aware of the contrast to ordinary people, a little put out that he cannot find any really poor fellow, and he is quite rude about Nefertiti. One structure that he does not like is the pyramid at Meidum, largely because a lot of it collapsed soon after it was built.

Ever since Herodotus foreigners have been throwing up their hands at the Egyptians and their way of life in spite of revolution, the spread of Marxist ideas and a revival of religious fervour there is no widespread belief that life can be changed for the better, and Golding throws up his hands on several occasions, notably when a story unfolds that takes us back to the good old days.

It tells of treasure from the tombs. A certain Hassan Fahy, member of a once princely family, dreamed of improving the quality of rural dwellings and rediscovering the art of building with expensive wooden rafters but with arches of sun-baked brick. The Government had decreed that the Gournawis, a group of families who lived in mud-brick huts near the Theban hills, should be rehoused.

Financially there was no problem but the scheme came to very little because of red tape, the unreliability of contractors and sabotage, probably by the Gournawis who did not want to leave their squalid houses where there was always the chance of picking up the tomb. So Fahy went off to New Mexico where they took to the mud brick arch at once.

And so with the Institution for the Deaf, the building of Mangro and Olive Trees. This was another venture that did not get off the ground. Its European director and Egyptian assistant had established the institution, Oxyrhynchus, on a million olive trees, and establishing a big new industry. Now they were giving up because of bureaucratic obstruction.

In spite of a couple of Egyptian essays and The Scorpion God, Golding has given the impression that Greece speaks to him more clearly than Egypt, but it seems that he has been fascinated by the Nile valley since boyhood. There are places where Greece and Egypt come together. Oxyrhynchus being one of them. Here mounds of papyrus scraps have been found, a lot bearing Greek writing, and this knowledge set his young imagination racing. One carried a fragment from the Sayings of Christ. So he would go there and find papyrus fragments for himself.

But he never did, not even on this trip. There would have been nothing to see but the sandy waste that Oxyrhynchus now is and all Egypt would be but the Nile. Golding sees deeper and wanders to even remoter times. He has such a sense of the geological past that, reflecting in the Hani, he is floating above the Grand Canyon this part of Africa was ten million years ago and above the five successive Niles that flowed from south to north.

The vision does not quite relate to the rest of the book which is a true response to the country of today. There are a lot of good photographs, most of them by the author himself. One that is obviously not shows him in a capacious knitted jumper and peaked cap, every inch the one-time naval officer he is.

### Handke's vision

Robert Nye reviews new fiction

Slow Homecoming, by Peter Handke (Methuen, £9.95).

The Spectacle at the Tower, by Gertrude Hoffmann (Corgi, £2.95).

Stone Virgin, by Barry Unsworth (Hamish Hamilton, £8.95).

The Stories of Ronald Blythe (Chatto, £9.95).

In Minor Keys: The Uncollected Stories of George Moore, ed. David B. Ekin and Helmut E. Gerber (Fourth Estate, £9.95).



Peter Handke

I was sometimes irritated by his nit-picking chatter in the first two pieces, I was completely bowled over and convinced by this third, which even provides a point of view, by demonstrating that literature (if not painting or geology) needs a live subject in order to make it live. I recommend the whole as a good introduction to the work of the man whom John Updike has hailed as the best young writer in his language.

Gertrude Hoffmann is a new name to me, and I think that The Spectacle at the Tower must be his first work to be translated into English. On the strength of it, though — and it has to be said that Christopher Middleton's translation reads superbly well — Hoffmann can be mentioned the same breath as Barthes and Derrida, and to similar games in trying and failing to tell stories, and making the trying and the failure part of their message.

Set in a remote Sicilian village, a place of unremitting violence and decay, this novel covers a day in the life of a married couple. The woman is

pregnant and the man is desperate to tell her that he doesn't want the child she is carrying, but he keeps being interrupted — not by her, but by people and events in the village, which all seem to crop up at random, yet which bear on examination, and in the face of some hypocritically clever storytelling, an uncanny resemblance to the contents of his own imagination.

There is a dark tower, and a Mephistophelian stranger, the "supervisor," who insists on taking the couple there to witness an act of appalling destruction. It all sounds Gothic and absurd, and on one level it is, but Middleton's translation succeeds in conveying a sort of manic laughter pervading the whole, which makes the thing truly nightmarish in that while it serves the local conventions, it is also funny. A devilishly clever piece because it enchants and disenchants in about equal degrees.

So does Barry Unsworth's Stone Virgin, which also has the benefit of a complicated narrative structure, and is altogether a more convincing work than Handke's.

Now Murray "The Camel" Humphreys is canonised in crime next to more famous criminals like Al Capone and John Dillinger. Humphreys is an almost unknown name to the world at large. Unlike most Bootleg Age gunmen, he stayed in the shadows. This may be because he had learned that those in the light are shot down, or because John Morgan in this thoughtful and enjoyable sketch of a "master fixer," Public Enemy Number Two only after Scarface Capone himself, Morgan voices Humphreys' "handsome and elegant, articulate and artistic" thing was the son of Montgomeryshire migrants who went to Italy, Sicilians and Irish at their own crooked game.

To this day, few hard facts are known about The Camel. Morgan's chief sources were Humphreys' devoted daughter and a talkative FBI agent, Llewellyn Morris Humphreys left school at seven in 1906.

Somehow, this charming young apprentice killer came under the wing of a Chicago judge who undoubtedly encouraged him to use his wit as well as his Smith and Wesson. But first, as a Capone "soldier," Humphreys had to earn his spurs the old-fashioned way. He may have been one of the brains behind the gory St Valentine's Day massacre which rubbed out one of his rivals.

Always one move ahead in Chicago's "chaos of crime and corruption," Humphreys manoeuvred his way to discretion (and shot his way to discretion, but effective, pre-emptive). "At the mob's board meetings, his was the decisive voice, consisted almost entirely of intimidation, real or implied. Using Chicago

### Modest killer

by Clancy Sigal

No Gangster More Bold: Murray Humphreys, the Welsh political genius who corrupted America, by John Morgan (Hodder, £9.95).

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ENVS SALE  
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## Down and down she goes

Walpole, prime minister for more than twenty years, was finally brought down by a minor dispute about the representation of Chippingham. What happened to Margaret Thatcher in the early hours at Westminster yesterday is not perhaps a calamity in that class. But to have her majority cut from a natural 140 plus to a flimsy 17 on the issue of Lord Hailsham's wages is as demoralising a blow as any she can have sustained in the six years of her pre-eminence.

Yesterday's vivid and enthralling midnight debate was not, of course, really about Lord Hailsham at all. The increase he is now to be offered — not that he will take it — was doing symbolic duty for the wider issue of the pay increases, announced in a written answer on Thursday, now to be bestowed on a handful of "top people" — increases which will in some cases comfortably exceed, even after tax, the money some people get to live on.

Yet even this spectacular generosity, in a time when government is otherwise insisting on restraint, does not fully explain why 48 Conservative MPs should have been ready to vote against their Government yesterday, with even more abstaining. The revolt flourished as it did because the top people's pay decision, sprung on Westminster as it was on the world without the benefit of tactical leaking, confirmed deeper and more general fears, even among backbenchers still loyal to the economic strategy, that the Government is surrendering its grip on events, drifting more and more out of touch with the world outside. Competence — traditionally the quality that people look for most in a Conservative administration — now seems, time and again, to be fatally lacking.

In a way this was student grants — that miserable fiasco which everyone said must never be repeated — all over again. Once more they didn't see the danger till it burst all over them. The decision seems to have sailed through the higher echelons of government without a word of necessary warning. If only they'd asked us Mrs Thatcher's humble servants are now saying. We could have told them. But they never do ask.

There was a time when the Government would have been given the benefit of the doubt by some at least of those who

rebelled. There was a time when Mrs Thatcher's personal hold on the party might have minimised her backbenchers' disappointment. But the disillusion with the Prime Minister which opinion polls increasingly reflect in the country is there, in a softer but still significant form, at Westminster too. She seems to have lost her magic. "Trust me, trust my instincts" is no longer any answer. One decline feeds the other. Because her authority is less than it was, backbenchers will rebel as they did yesterday. Because backbenchers rebel as they did yesterday, her authority is further diminished.

Yet these events would not have evolved as they did had Labour not so skillfully exploited the Government's vulnerability. Labour's record in parliamentary opposition has often been drab and fiftid, marked by sizeable desertion even at moments of maximum attack. But from the moment on Monday when Mr Hattersley and a few valiant friends, armed with nothing more than the odd bogus point of order, began to assert that written answers were not enough, that ministers must come to account for their decision, Labour has staged what with one exception has been a textbook example of resolute and resourceful parliamentary opposition.

And yet, even now, there has been something wrong. There were 48 Conservative MPs voting in the opposition lobby at 2 a.m. yesterday morning. But there were 47 Labour MPs missing — as well as six from the Alliance. Some have immaculate alibis. The party leader, Mr Kimmo, was in Africa. Others were ill. Still more, it is said, were unable to change arrangements.

Yet had the opposition parties mustered anything like their full strength the narrow escape the Government had might have been turned into a huge and public humiliation. Mr Hattersley would have been busy yesterday afternoon not merely with a further skirmish on the adjournment debate but with a full-scale debate on a motion of confidence. The Government would have won; but that damage could well have been lasting.

There remain those who say that none of this matters. The parliamentary battles are mere theatre. They make no difference to the outside world. They bring no relief to poverty on the streets. But in terms of a government's reputation, with the world at large, with its own supporters, even with itself, the sort of rebuke which the Commons handed Mrs Thatcher yesterday morning can still shift the whole terms and style of the party battle. That is a lesson which Labour's new chief whip will need urgently to apply.

## Aspects of incompetence

By curious end-of-term chance there was a lot of reporting yesterday on the things top people — civil servants, admirals, ministers — do when they're not thumbing their pay packets. Within a few minutes, we had the Foreign Affairs Committee on the Belgrano and the Public Accounts Committee on Mr Peter Levene. As ever, in such matters, a short unanimous report is better than a long, divided one. Because Foreign Affairs MPs split on party lines, their contribution to the pantheon of Belgrano-bill doesn't help anybody much: those who smell only roses will continue to sniff sweetness; those who smell a rat will relish the continuing pong. The maverick odour drifting from one camp to another is the Tory majority's exceptional sheepishness about the Total Exclusion Zone around the Falklands. We announced we were going to war by MCC-type rules; then we moved, in a trice, to all-in wrestling. Even Sir Anthony Marshall doesn't find that very comprehensible or gentlemanly. If only the Labour minority might add he'd taken that strand of muddled caddishness further and applied it to subsequent events.

The PAC's unanimous report on Mr Levene, however, suffers from no such complexities. Simply, it puts the boot in. Mr Levene is the \$95,000-a-year Accounting Officer for the Defence Procurement Vote. Mr Michael Heseltine summoned him from United Scientific Holdings to turn gamekeeper at the MoD. There was a tremendous ruckus. Trying to defuse that row, Mr Levene announced that he'd have no immediate responsibility for contracts involving his former companies. His subordinates would look after USH and allied companies. A pledge to set the PAC snarling. The Accounting Officer, the MPs rightly insist, can't simply wave away the embarrassing bits. This is "a serious break of the principle of personal financial accountability to Parliament."

Indeed it is; and the longer the Levene controversy runs, the worse the Government's behaviour seems. Michael Heseltine had the notion of bringing in the high-powered outsider. He sold it to Mrs Thatcher. And (as so often before, and so often since) they ploughed ahead. But the cost of getting their own way increasingly appears disproportionate. Mr Levene has started work pavilioned in hostility. And the argument shows no sign of stopping. Advocates of Plowden, for example, used

that \$95,000 a year to demonstrate how far in arrears Civil Service salaries had become. But the original Heseltine point was that, inside the MoD, paying \$40,000 a year less, he didn't have anyone who was equipped to do as good a job. Now, on Plowden lines, it's necessary to give those who weren't good enough a fat salary boost in order to restore the morale they lost when Levene was plucked out of industry.

There is a terrible messiness to ministerial logic in these areas. A continued propensity to decree first and think later. You can't look back upon either the Belgrano cover-up (which even the loyalist Tories complain about) or the Levene episode without wishing that Mrs Thatcher, and Mr Heseltine, were more amenable to advice. But you would then have to question the quality of the advice available to them. We know, in the past four days, that Plowden swept through a grim Cabinet because the Prime Minister and her most senior Civil Servant, Sir Robert Armstrong, wanted it that way. But no sooner was that decision announced than Sir Robert was revealed as the biggest single beneficiary: a 46 per cent man. Of course he didn't advise as he did for personal gain. But his advice (as with GCHQ before) still seems deeply wonky. In private industry, top managers who give lousy advice don't get 46 per cent rises. They get potted handshakes. But that isn't the Whitehall way (which is why, for us, Plowden is so wildly off-beam). A competent government (trying to recover from a spasm of high incompetence) would spend the summer getting its balance of good advice and measured action right before the next rain of acid reports descends.

## Popplewell prescribes

It must be assumed that when Mr Justice Popplewell, in his interim report on the very different tragedies at Bradford and Birmingham, talks of the various ways in which hooliganism can be prevented at football grounds "apart from abolishing football altogether" he has his tongue firmly in his judicial cheek. But perhaps not quite: perhaps it is indicative of his overall view that he sees fit even to mention abolition. In that he probably touches the public pulse, at least of the early summer. After the end-of-season disasters there was the understandable and widespread reaction: "Can any game be worth it?"

The answer is self-evidently negative. But the game is with us, and certainly will, if not must, go on. The new domestic

season starts in a little over four weeks. Such is the medium term resistance to shock (or the complacency) that the horror of the aftermath of the tragedies has almost of the aftermath of the insensitivity of ready given way to the insensitivity of the European bans and much foot-dragging over reforms which just a few weeks ago seemed extremely urgent. Perhaps Popplewell will help to recover those May emotions, for they should not be allowed to slip away.

It was a mistake on the Government's part to ask Popplewell to treat a fire trap as a hooliganism tragedy as though they were one and the same thing. They are very separate. One involves physical structures, the safety of stadia; the other involves human behaviour. It is clear, reading the interim report, that merging can lead to muddle.

On ground safety, from fire or the collapse of stands, little fault can be found in Popplewell. Clearly clubs must be held responsible for safety; ground staff should be trained to cope with an emergency; there should be proper and manned exits; fire hazards should be removed. If clubs cannot afford the necessary improvements, either from their own resources or with the help of the Football Trust, then they must go under. The Bradford disaster was avoidable and its like must never happen again.

Violence is a very different problem, and a harder one to tackle. The Prime Minister, as early as the Luton/Millwall riot, has made it a plank of national policy to eradicate the disease. But even she has been rather quiet since that frenzy of post-Heseltine populism. She, we were told, was insistent that a system of identity cards should be introduced before the new season. What option did Popplewell have but to make that one of his recommendations? Yet the Government will not legislate before the new season, and the football clubs complain ever louder about the difficulties and the cost of such a scheme. Popplewell goes further and suggests the banning of visiting fans; that seems harsh when the vast majority are well-behaved and anyway suitably penned.

Where Popplewell goes furthest is in his suggestions of increased police powers of search and arrest — for example of those chanting obscene or racist abuse. There will be new proposed public order legislation, and such measures should be included in that. But they have wider implications and will have to be debated by Parliament in the context of public order as a whole. Simple things ought to be done quickly. Complex things ought to be done deliberately, and with due care.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### When religious dogmatism is in the eye of the outsider

Sir—Dr Denis MacEoin (Face to Faith, July 15) poses the question of how a religious law can change and adapt to modern circumstances when the law itself is considered an immutable divinely ordained law. He takes the example of the Baha'i faith.

Dr MacEoin is sadly out of touch with the reality of Baha'i community life if he considers that the sort of narrow legalistic attitude that he portrays is reflected among the Baha'is. I know of no Baha'i who would even ponder the question of the details of praying in space. The function of prayer is to put oneself in communication with God, and thus to advance towards becoming a source of harmony and unity in society.

Indeed, the words of Baha'u'llah written 130 years ago have a startling modernity in this connection: "Wert thou to speed through the immensity of space and traverse the expanse of heaven, yet thou wouldst find no rest save in submission to Our command and humbleness before Our face." Compared to this, the outward form of the prayer is relatively unimportant.

Nor is Dr MacEoin correct in portraying the Baha'i faith as a closed, total, unchangeable system. Those areas in which there are fixed laws are relatively few in number and relate to aspects such as prayer which are in a sense fixed in that they remain true no matter how much society changes.

### State secret

Sir—I refer to your report (July 22) of the Foreign Office Minister of State, Malcolm Rifkind's response to the declaration of a state of emergency in South Africa.

He is reported as saying "that the task of finding a solution to the bloody confrontations in South Africa was a matter for its own citizens, black and white."

Since the black "citizens" of South Africa have no voice, negligible rights and are subject to the most draconian law, against which they cannot legally protest, perhaps Mr Rifkind would be kind enough to advise us as to how the black citizens can participate in finding that solution. — Yours faithfully, Graham Morris, 5 Stock Orchard Crescent, London N7.

### Looking on the bright side

Sir—If only the Chairman of the Young Conservatives, Mr Richard Fuller, had the courage of his convictions. The rational and undogmatic case he articulated (Guardian, July 23) for demanding expansion of the manufacturing sector, will never be accepted by the ideologues now running the Tory Party. It is, however, the policy of Britain's other principal non-

Other elements are not, within the Baha'i system, fixed, but may be altered from time to time.

Dr MacEoin is quite correct in attaching importance to an empiricist working out of life in the world, but the present of framework, provided by religion, within which one is doing this adds to rather than subtracts from one's ability to achieve a satisfactory equilibrium both inwardly and in relation to society. — Yours sincerely, (Dr) Wendy Momen, Wixomtree, Bedfordshire.

Sir—Ian Black in his report from Jerusalem (July 22) states that the Israelis are a people "... whose ancestors would rather have died than eat of the flesh of the swine." Not so, Jewish dietary laws are guidelines for a life in adversity. In adverse conditions the preservation of life is paramount and a Jew must eat whatever is available, even pork. A Jew who chooses to die rather than eat pork would be viewed as a suicide and not as a martyr.

How all this affects Israel, which one can argue has never known normal times since its formation in 1948, is an interesting question. However it is one that religious zealots will choose to ignore because they enjoy the creation of moral absolutes and the imposition of them upon others. — Yours faithfully, 14 Hillfoot Road, Liverpool.

### Heil, Mary

Sir—In her interesting remarks on the pedigree of Mrs Thatcher's ideas (Social Darwinism have a good ally in Hitler, July 17), Mary Midgley suggests "... Many people who would not be pleased to hear that they agree with Adolf Hitler take the same line. ... as he is reported to have taken in his Table-Talk."

Ms Midgley is, of course, a leading philosopher of animal rights as well as being familiar with Hitler's ideas and I am intrigued by the thought that she will be quoting his advocacy of vegetarianism in her next essay, or perhaps Himmier's article on animal rights (1936), or Goering's speech against vivisection (1933) — but will it please your readers?

Mark Almond, 14 Northwood Road, Oxford.

## Why Socialism badly needs the Dunkirk spirit

Sir—Ken Gill (Agenda, July 19) reminds me of an army officer who said "apart from a few negative features like being kicked out of Europe and thousands dead or taken prisoner, Dunkirk was a great military victory. He stands facts on their heads in an endeavour to justify his mistaken position."

Unlike Ken, it has never been my belief that miners took strike action to highlight the case for coal or for a sane energy policy or deal with the broader issues of the economy and mass unemployment. As for the development of women's groups and a strengthening of the movement for women's rights, this surprised many miners as it equally shocked the Government.

The issue of international solidarity and the awakening of many young miners to the role of the State was never part of the deliberations when miners resolved to take on the NCB and the Government. They were the positive aspect of a struggle which

ended in defeat in terms of the objective of the strike. The battle was about pit closures and its immediate effect on miners and their communities.

Since the end of the strike we have witnessed an acceleration of the closures, victimised miners still unemployed or in goal and severe divisions within the NUM. It cannot be denied this is a severe setback, not only for the miners, but the trade union movement as a whole. Let us hope that this is our Dunkirk and the Brecon and Radnor by-election is a minor skirmish on our way forward to more momentous campaigns and an ultimate victory in the struggle to bring about fundamental social change which will benefit the majority of people.

The immediate task is to get rid of the Thatcher government by advancing policies which provide a base for the development of a broad social coalition. Confirmation that the British people reject the crass individualism of the "I'm all right, Jack, socialist"

of Thatcherism is not proof positive that people have a socialist vision of the future.

The catchphrase "bold socialist policies" does not mean much to the person waiting two years to enter a National Health Service hospital or to the individual whose electricity is cut off or been made redundant by a state controlled industry. Both workers in, and consumers of, the public services are alienated from what they see as bureaucratic organisations that fail to respond adequately to the needs of the people. Unfortunately, Ken, your words conjure up that image.

The voice of the electorate saying "we want more social services, we want Government to tackle the scandal of unemployment" followed by the election of an Alliance candidate with Labour getting less than 40 per cent of the vote in Brecon and Radnor does not spell out a Labour victory at the next election, let alone a socialist one. The mere mention of the

word socialism scares the pants off a large proportion of trade union members.

If we are to defend our services, stop privatisation, rebuild the economy and end the scandal of poverty and unemployment it must be done on terms acceptable to the majority of British people. I am yet to be convinced that the Labour movement has worked out the necessary strategy. — Yours faithfully, Doug Cook, 2 Macleod Close, Clevedon, Avon.

Sir—Is Mr Anthony Arbister (Letters, July 24) sure that he has been reading the Guardian during the miners' strike? I ask because his account of your editorial line bears no resemblance to the editorials I have read.

Your leaders consistently raised worries about policing policy and police conduct. They challenged the pressure for tough action last summer by the Home Secretary. They

welcomed the abandonment or dismissal of "riot" cases by the courts — whilst noting the implication that the courts were not acting as puppets of a repressive state.

Contrary to his allegation, you "applauded" the high court decision to force the Nottinghamshire breakdown to ballot its members according to rule, as a victory for "commonsense and natural justice" (Guardian, July 12).

Finally Mr Arbister deliberately confuses the concept of review in the case of miners sacked in defiance of the board's normal procedures (which you support, editorially) and a review of people sentenced by the courts according to the normal procedures of the law (which you do not). These miners found "not guilty" of riot and other crimes, had their cases "reviewed" by the courts which "acquitted" them. — Yours faithfully, Jonathan Schreiber, 205 Leighton Road, London NW3.

### Dounreay's quality countdown

Sir—If I may intervene in the correspondence between T. D. McRoberts of the UKAEA and Colin Sweet in your columns (Letters June 22, July 10, 18, 23) I would like to point out some contradictions in Mr McRoberts's two letters and discrepancies with other information provided by the UKAEA.

Mr McRoberts claims 25 years of experience of reprocessing fast reactor fuel (Dounreay, 1958-1961). However, information supplied in support of the UKAEA's planning application reveals that reprocessing was suspended between 1975 and 1980 while the plant was decontaminated and refurbished for use with PFR fuel. Prior to 1980 the only fuel reprocessed at Dounreay came from the DFR materials testing reactor. DFR fuel was made from highly enriched uranium and is not comparable with the mixed plutonium/uranium oxide

fuel used in fast breeder reactors.

Therefore, Dounreay was at most five years experience of reprocessing breeder reactor fuel. But what is the quality of this experience?

In his earlier letter Mr McRoberts boasted that Dounreay currently processed four tonnes per year while admitting that this is only half the capacity of the plant. Four tonnes per year over five years would give a total of 20 tonnes worth of experience. But Mr McRoberts's second letter reveals that the actual total is 5.5 tonnes reprocessed in five years.

These figures could be brought in line if, say, over the first four years Dounreay had reprocessed only 1.5 tonnes and then in the past year some dramatic breakthrough had increased its throughput to 4 tonnes.

Not so. Speaking in September 1983 Sir Peter Hirsch, then chair of the UKAEA, claimed that 4.3 tonnes of PFR fuel had been processed. This since then the plant has operated at less than one tonne per year or less than one-eighth of its capacity.

The reality behind T. D. McRoberts's obfuscation is that Dounreay has not the experience on which to base its technological confidence that commercial fast reactor reprocessing would work. — Yours, Jos Gallacher, 5 Kirkes Road, Lancaster.

### Commotose?

Sir—So it is not President Reagan full stop — only semi-colon. — Yours faithfully, D. W. Smith, Sheffield.

### Hung up on a nuclear tie

Sir—The US Administration's sense of tact and timing sometimes verges on the breathtaking. With the opening of the Non Proliferation Treaty (NPT) Review Conference in Geneva little more than a month away, China, a nuclear weapon state and non-signatory to the NPT, has been granted a nuclear cooperation agreement with the United States. (Guardian July 24.)

Such technological transfers, no matter how dubious in terms of development economics, safety and needs, are one of the few incentives on offer for Third World countries when they consider joining or remaining bound by the Non Proliferation Treaty. It is widely feared that the cynical failure of the US, UK and USSR to honour the other incentive i.e. to move towards meaningful disarmament, will put the NPT under serious strain next month in Geneva.

The Chinese nuclear agreement could well be the final affront causing some nations to reconsider their membership of the NPT and others to remain permanently outside. A high price for Sino-American ties that the US regards as "symbolic importance." — Yours faithfully, Colin Eines, Greenpeace, London N1.

Sir—Mr Robert McFarlane, President Reagan's National Security Adviser, argues that "S.D.I. is the moral way to go because it defends against nuclear weapons and does not seek to destroy property or life, only incoming missiles." (Guardian July 20.)

Which way was it at the whole project, estimated to cost trillions of dollars, can only increase the tempo of the arms race, and will add heavily to the global suffering which the cost of the arms race is already imposing on the peoples of the world.

At the recent congress of the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, the cost of the arms race was spelled out in the most horrifying terms: ten million people dying annually from diseases attributable to contaminated drinking water; 40,000 children dying daily from malnutrition and infection; over 300 million children chronically hungry.

Even more astounding are the facts about the price being paid by the American people themselves for this extravagance of nuclear proliferation. Whereas in 1979 there were virtually no hungry people in the USA today there are 20 million Americans suffering a "growing epidemic of hunger" (New York Times Feb 27); there are 35.3 million Americans living in poverty (Boston Globe March 5).

In the light of these facts one can only wonder at McFarlane's conception of "morality." — Yours etc (Dr) Hyman Davies, 18 Danesway, Manchester.



In order to make a donation to someone who does need it? Band Aid perhaps? Yours, P.J. Element, London, E7.

Sir—What an insult the Government has offered to our judges, military men and senior civil servants: "Vocation." "Professionalism." "Job Satisfaction." "Patriotism" are all terms calculated to bring protesting teachers, nurses and prison officers to their knees in adoration of government pay policy. But for these higher beings there is nothing for it but to appeal to naked self-interest and offer them unlimited money or we'll lose them to more "attractive" walks of life or other nations. — Yours faithfully, K. C. Richardson, Liverpool.

### A COUNTRY DIARY

EXMOOR: Between Minehead and Porlock a considerable mass of sandstone, rising to a height of 1,000 feet, forms North Hill and Selworthy Beacon. Farmland sweeps up its flanks and the lanes which serve it are fabulous places as trees and hedgerow plants reach full development. Gravelly and meadow brown butterflies sit over the honeysuckle, vetch and bedstraw. Bracken, hartstongue ferns and campion stalk straight whilst blackberry shoots and the taller grasses lean out to the light in nooks and crannies sky young robins, avoiding the hawk-eyed buzzard overhead seek food among ivy and pennywort,

Great colonies of foxgloves, laden with blooms rise above all. Each gateway suggests a pause and gives a view of Porlock Vale where fields of barley and wheat, nourished by alluvial soil, introduce golden colour not repeated elsewhere in the Exmoor region. The top of the hill survives as moor. The Lutterells and Acklands, landowners, established paths at an early date. A "scenic road" climbs steeply from Minehead and continues for three miles whilst the Somerset coast path passes along the seaward side of the high ground. Cars were moving back and forth on the road and aircraft of the RAF were manoeuvring below hill-

top level, for all that it is a place where solitude may be experienced. What, on a mountain peak, might seem like a horde is easily absorbed by this broad-backed moorland with its many combs. Our route to Selworthy took us past the all-weather shelter built in memory of Sir Thomas Dyke Ackland whose descendants presented large tracts of the surrounding land to the National Trust. The inscription records that "During 50 years he took Sunday walks up this comb with his children and grandchildren trailing them in the love of Nature and of Christian poetry." BRIAN CHUGG



# FUTURES

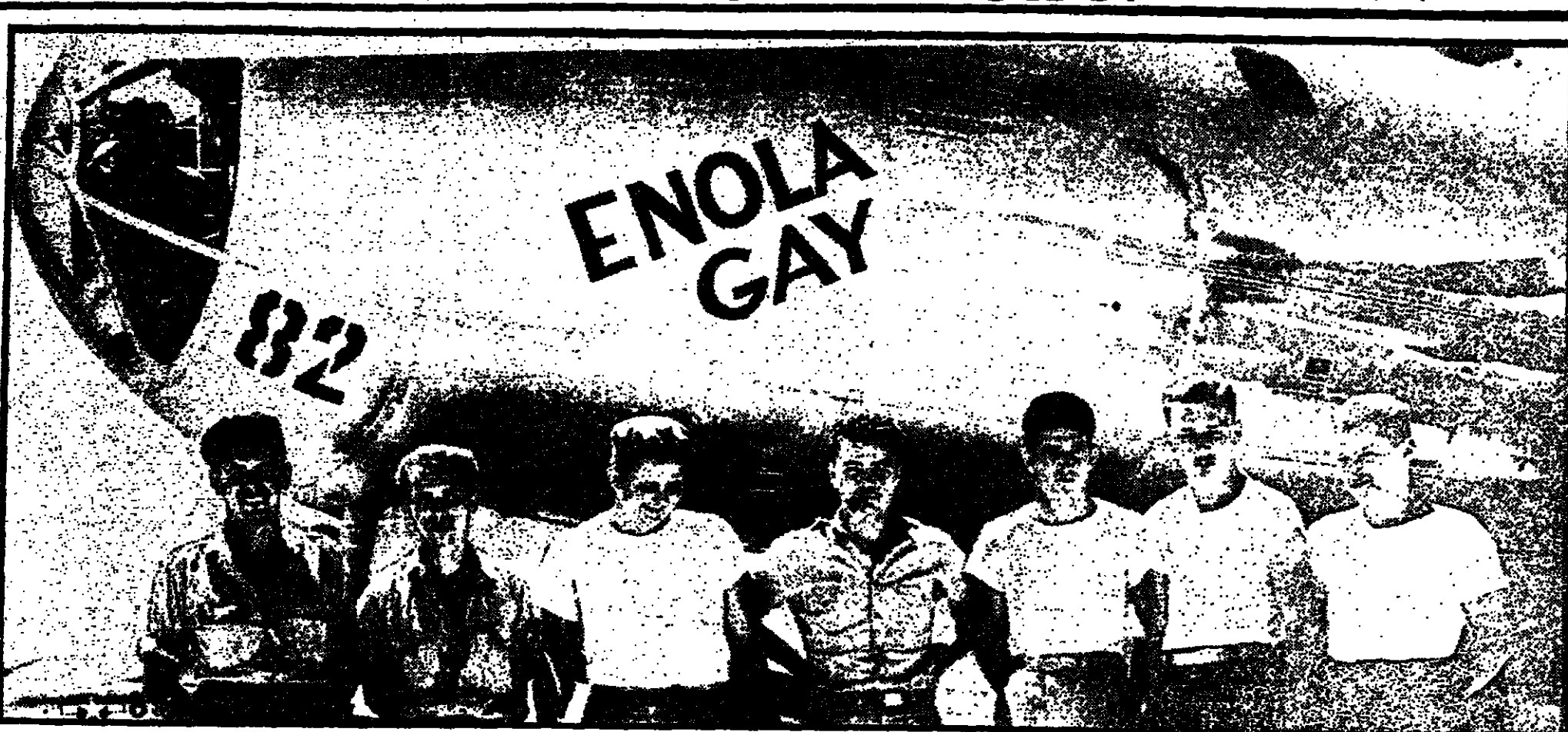
## MICRO GUARDIAN-PLUS THE WORLD OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Thursday July 25 1985 13



Above: Niels Bohr, right: ground crew of the B29 which dropped the atom bomb on Hiroshima. The pilot, Col. Paul Tibbets, is in the centre

Niels Bohr was born 100 years ago this year. Four decades ago, on the eve of Hiroshima, he foresaw the nightmare of the arms race. Margaret Gowing tells the story



## The man who caught a glimpse of Armageddon

THIS year, the 40th anniversary of the first and only use of nuclear weapons in war is also the centenary of the birth (October 7) of Niels Bohr, the great Danish physicist. His physical intuition was crucial to the understanding of atoms and thus to the release of atomic energy while his political intuition led him to see, two years before the first atomic bombs were dropped, the likelihood of a postwar nuclear arms race with the Soviet Union and then to propose action to forestall it.

Bohr, the theoretician, and Ernest Rutherford, the experimentalist, were one of the great pairs in the history of science and together laid the foundations of atomic physics for periods of years together in Manchester, enjoyed strong family friendships and corresponded voluminously.

Rutherford died in 1937, before the Second World War and atomic bombs. His belief that talk of releasing the energy locked up in the atom for practical purposes was "moonshine" is often quoted. But he had also referred to the just conceivable possibility that "a waste of atomic disintegration might be started through matter which would indeed make this old world vanish in smoke." Until well into the Second World War Bohr was, however, very cautious about atomic bombs.

At the beginning of 1939 German scientists had discovered that uranium atoms would fission when bombarded with neutrons, the particles at the heart of atoms, and in April 1939 French scientists had demonstrated the possibility of a nuclear chain reaction and thus of a bomb.

However, an article by Bohr and an American colleague, published the day Germany invaded Poland, showed that only uranium 235 atoms fissioned. As there was only one 235 atom in 140 uranium atoms in a lump of uranium and their separation seemed technically impossible, a bomb seemed, mercifully, most improbable.

Soon, however, the Frisch-Peierls memorandum written in Birmingham, England, dramatically changed the bomb prospects and led to the British Maud Report which in 1941 led the Americans to set up the atomic bomb project (see The Guardian, April 8, 1985).

Meanwhile Denmark was occupied by the Nazis and Niels Bohr was preoccupied with protecting his institute at Copenhagen and the refugees there. He was deeply disturbed by a visit in October 1941 from Germany of Heisenberg, one of his greatest pupils. This visit was later described by Robert Jungk in Brighter than a Thousand Suns as "a little known peace-feeler" directed to preventing the production of atomic weapons. This version of the interview was, according to Bohr, quite untrue but Bohr did receive the impression that the Germans attributed great military importance to atomic energy.

Early in 1943 James Chadwick, who had discovered the neutron and was informal scientific leader of the British atomic project, sent a memorandum to Bohr (written on Liverpool University notepaper for authenticity) asking him to come to England. Only Bohr and his family were about to be arrested, did they escape to Sweden, whence Bohr and his physicist son, Aage, were flown to great height as the earphones did not fit Bohr's large head he did not bear the order to turn on the oxygen and nearly died.

the right of participation in the American project, which had been denied them for over a year, had just been restored by the Quebec Agreement signed by Churchill and Roosevelt.

Bohr, so welcome to the British for his own sake, was also, as a member of their team in the United States, a trump card for them in implementing the Agreement.

When Bohr saw the vast Manhattan Project, built on the theoretical foundations he had laid, he was fascinated by it. But he was infinitely more impressed with the implications of this weapon of unparalleled power for the future of the world.

Bohr took no part in discussions about whether atomic bombs, if made, should be dropped. He looked rather to the years after the war and the terrifying prospect of future competition between nations in atomic weapons.

After his first visit to Los Alamos he wrote to London that future effective control would involve not only the most intricate technical and administrative problems but also the exchange of information and openness about industrial efforts and military preparations that were hardly conceivable in terms of prewar international relationships.

Before long his thoughts crystallised into a fairly precise proposal. At a time of euphoria about brave Russian allies Bohr believed that there would be tension between the West and Russia after the war and that confidence and cooperation might be promoted by telling Russia about the bomb before it was used.

Conversely, he believed that it would be disastrous if Russia should learn on her own about the bomb. Knowing very well the Russians made a bomb themselves would be very small.

This conviction was strengthened when, in London in April 1944, he received a letter from his old friend the Russian physicist Peter Kapitza, written when Bohr escaped to Sweden and inviting him to settle in Russia. This reinforced Bohr's belief that the Russians were aware of the American project. He sent back a warm, innocuous reply to Kapitza and showed the correspondence to the British authorities.

The political implications of the bomb had become Bohr's prime concern and he spent much of his time writing "political" memoranda in his laundries and offices and ante-rooms of those who had political power or access to it.

His discursive talk and his low, indistinct voice were not easy to follow but he made important converts: Lord Halifax and Sir Ronald Campbell, respectively Ambassador and Minister at the British Embassy in Washington. Sir John Anderson, the Minister in charge of atomic affairs, Lord Cherwell, the scientist who was Mr. Churchill's personal adviser, Field Marshal Smuts.

prewar friendship with Mr. Justice Frankfurter, who was a Supreme Court Justice and a friend of Roosevelt. He already knew about the bomb and communicated Bohr's ideas and hopes to the President, who said the whole thing "worried him to death" and that he was most eager to explore it with Churchill.

In March 1944, Anderson wrote a long minute to Churchill saying that it seemed certain that the Americans would get a bomb first but it was foolish to suppose that Russia would not put forward a great effort once they had expelled the Germans. Moreover, the scale of the effort would decrease and come within the capacity of other countries.

There were two alternatives: a particularly vicious arms race in which at best America and Britain would for a time enjoy a precarious and uneasy advantage; or a form of international control must be devised. If it was decided to work for international control, there was much to be said for communicating to Russia in the near future the bare fact that the Americans expected by a given date to have this devastating weapon and for inviting them to collaborate in preparing a scheme for international control.

If the Russians were told nothing they would learn sooner or later what was afoot and might then be less disposed to cooperate. There was little risk that Russia, if she chose to be uncooperative, would be much helped by such a communication. Churchill added his plea: "I must confess that I think plans and preparations for the postwar world and even the peace conference are utterly illusory, so long as this crucial factor is left out of account." Churchill however disagreed profoundly and constantly reiterated his conviction that the project must be kept absolutely as secret as possible.

Pressed by Smuts, Cherwell and Sir Henry Dale, President of the Royal Society, Churchill saw Bohr on May 16, 1944, and the meeting was a failure. However, during the summer Churchill realised that he must discuss the long-term problem of the atomic bomb with the President when next they met, as they did in September.

Before then Frankfurter had sent a seven-page memorandum by Bohr to Roosevelt, and on August 26 Roosevelt had an interview of 1½ hours with Bohr in complete privacy.

Bohr reiterated his belief that there was a great opportunity for better world relations if it was seized now rather than later. He expanded on his reasons for urging an approach to Russia and on his arguments against those who said that the West would lose thereby.

He said it must be assumed that the Russians knew great efforts were being made in the United States to make a bomb; that the Russians themselves were studying the matter and would be free to develop a full effort at the end of the German war; that the Russians would probably obtain the German secrets at the end of the war. If America and Britain said nothing before a bomb was used they would arouse Russian suspicions and create a greater risk of future competition in atomic weapons. They would lose the opportunity of using an approach to Russia in order to establish confidence.

problems raised by the bomb. He said that an approach to Russia must be tried and would open a new era of human history. Stalin, he believed, was a sufficient realist to understand the implications of this scientific and technological revolution. Bohr was sufficiently encouraged by his talk with Roosevelt to have a shot at a draft letter to Kapitza on the lines discussed and held himself ready to go to Russia.

Bohr's high hopes were rudely dashed. In September 1944 Mr Churchill and President Roosevelt met and discussed the atomic bomb, with results very different from those fore-shadowed during Bohr's interview with Roosevelt. On September 18 they signed an aide memoire which included a paragraph saying that inquiries were to be made about Professor Bohr and steps taken to ensure that he leaked no information, particularly to the Russians.

This agreement, besides turning down Bohr's proposal for an approach to Russia, put his own honour in question. Mr Churchill put these doubts about Bohr even more forcefully to Lord Cherwell. "The President and I are much worried about Professor Bohr. How did he come into the business? He is a great advocate of publicity. He made an unauthorised disclosure to Chief Justice Frankfurter, who started the President by telling him he knew all the details. He said he is in close correspondence with a Russian professor, and old friend of his in Russia to whom he has written about the matter and may be writing still. The Russian professor has urged him to go to Russia in order to discuss matters. What is all this about? It seems to me Bohr ought to be confined or at any rate made to see that he is very near the edge of mortal crimes."

Bohr's friends, Cherwell, Anderson, Halifax and Campbell, rushed to defend Bohr and to say that Churchill was talking nonsense. They felt strongly "that the great P. J. (Panjandrum) was barking up an imaginary tree." Cherwell sent a strong reply to Churchill telling him how Bohr had come into the business, about the Bohr-Frankfurter talks, the story of the approach by Kapitza and the President, and the agreement by British Intelligence.

"I have always found Bohr most discreet and conscious of his obligations to England to which he owes a great debt, and only the very strongest evidence would induce me to believe that he had done anything improper in this matter."

Churchill accepted Cherwell's opinion about Bohr and the matter was dropped. Bohr, when he heard of the misunderstanding, was distressed; he might have been deeply offended but his sense of humour was always stronger than his pride.

We do not know the reasons for Roosevelt's volte face. As for Churchill, he believed passionately in the desirability and possibility of keeping atomic weapons secret. At home he kept the matter secret from the War Cabinet (including Mr. Attlee, who in July 1945 became Prime Minister) and his Defence advisers and he refused to impart any information to the Foreign Office. He was deeply concerned about the prospect of a postwar arms race. The politicians, he said, did not appreciate the threat. In all principal countries influential scientists had the ear of political leaders and they should come together to bring pressure to bear on their political leaders to strive for an internationalisation of military power. "Don't say impossible," wrote Einstein to Bohr, "but wait a few days until you have accustomed yourself to these strange thoughts." Bohr went to see Einstein and explained to him that it would be quite illegitimate

and might have the most deplorable consequences if anyone who was brought into confidence about the bomb should take the initiative into his own hands. Bohr assured Einstein that the attention of responsible statesmen in England and America had been called to the implications of the bomb. Einstein thereupon agreed to abstain from action and to impress on his friends the undesirability of doing anything that might complicate the delicate task of statesmen.

Bohr, conscious that time was running out, became increasingly convinced that postponement of any discussion with Russia until a bomb was demonstrated might give the appearance of an attempt at coercion in which no great nation could be expected to acquiesce. Anderson, Halifax and indeed Eden as Foreign Secretary realised that the important questions Bohr had raised would have to be faced sooner or later.

In April 1945 Halifax and Frankfurter walked through Rock Creek Park in Washington discussing how to get Bohr's proposals properly considered. As they ended their walk they heard all the bells in Washington tolling Roosevelt was dead.

In Washington, too, scientific advisers had been pressing on Mr. Stimson, Secretary of State for War, views not

dissimilar to Bohr's and in May 1945 he chaired an Interim Committee which inter alia discussed disclosure to Russia and possible forms of international control.



The important questions would have to be faced sooner or later

Members of the Committee were torn between a desire for scientific openness and a conviction that the business could not remain secret for long on the one hand, and by anxieties over deteriorating Russian behaviour on the other. The anxieties won and the Committee decided early in June 1945 that no information should be revealed to Russia or anyone else until the first bomb had dropped on Japan.

On July 24, eight days after the atomic bomb test at Alamogordo and thirteen days before a bomb was dropped on Hiroshima, President

Truman told Stalin simply that the United States had a new weapon of unusual destructive force. Bohr's wartime pleas had failed. As books told about them from the 1960s onwards they were seen as the remarkable intuition of a remarkable scientist.

A leading historian of international relations, however, attacked them. He wrote, "the concept of 'international control' in the minds of Bohr and others was essentially a cop-out, a flight into higher mysticism away from the unpleasant and unacceptable world of politics."

Such strictures were inappropriate to Bohr's essentially practical proposal. He knew that Russian physicists were extremely good and that once a bomb was dropped there could be no secret. To inform Russia officially would therefore carry little risk and might conceivably bring benefits. Not to inform Russia would bring little benefit and would intensify suspicions.

Bohr's idealism, that it was set in a very practical framework of limited objectives as he looked to a future when all civilised life might be destroyed in a flash.

If Russia had been told about the bomb during the war it might have made no difference. But she had already begun her own project in 1942 when a young

physicist, finding no references to nuclear physics in American and British journals, was convinced that they had a project directed to a bomb, when no one listened to him he approached Stalin. Later Russia knew a great deal about the Manhattan Project from spies, notably Klaus Fuchs.

Extraordinarily and mercifully enough, the Germans guessed or knew nothing about the Allied project until after they surrendered. The fact that Russia was told virtually nothing by the Allies guaranteed that attempts made just after the war to establish international control of atomic energy, which might have failed anyway, were doomed.

Bohr did not argue about past events once the war was over. His thoughts were over the future and the postwar world. With his inbred and unquenchable optimism he was convinced that while atomic bombs introduced unprecedented threats to the world they also gave a unique opportunity for a new approach to international relationships. The form of approach now became his dominating concern until his death in 1962.

Margaret Gowing is Professor of the History of Science at the University of Oxford and the historian of Britain's independent nuclear deterrent.

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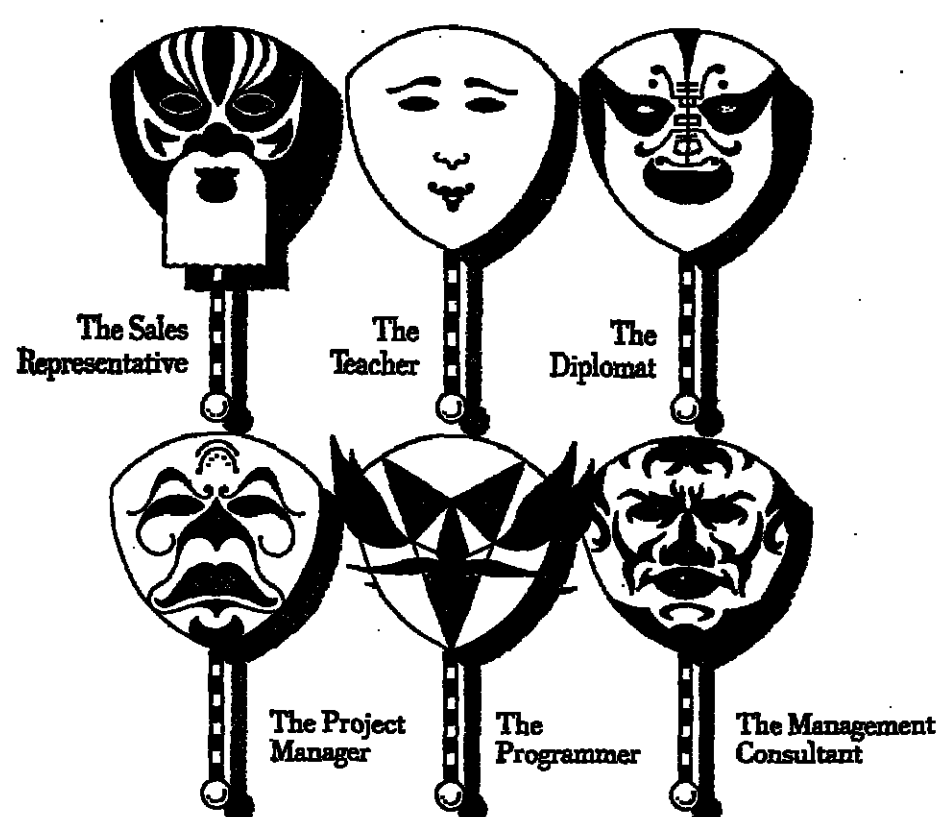
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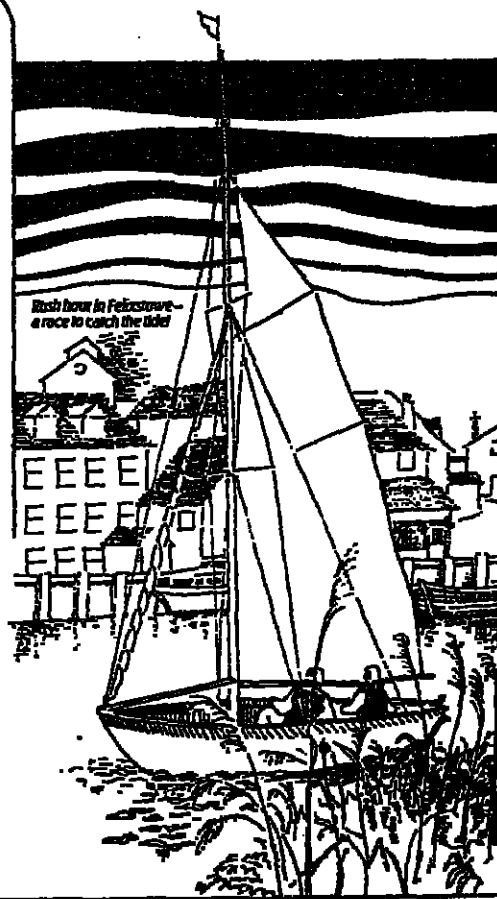
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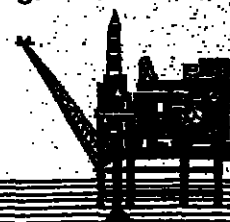
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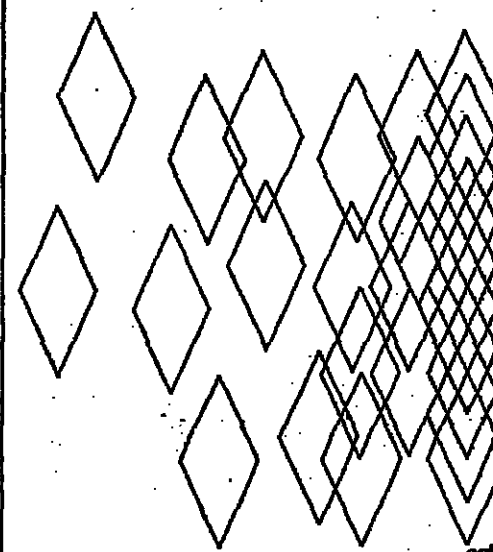
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PREDICTION is difficult, especially about the future. The last December I stuck my neck out and made a number of prognostications about what would happen in 1985. How am I doing so far?

My main predictions were for WIMPs or window icons, mouse programs, 3.5in disc drives and home micros with 256K of RAM. I also wrote that the flood of IBM PC look-alikes will continue, while most British hardware and software firms will take a "wait and see" attitude in general terms. Then, I was right in a number of details I was wrong.

In particular, I overestimated the speed with which new products would be launched, and underestimated the depth of the slump in the whole industry.

WIMPs have certainly made news, and there are now four main competitors in offering "user friendly" computing. The leader is still Apple with the Macintosh micro, where WIMPs are built in. Digital Research is the main competitor, with its GEM (Graphics Environment Manager) software for the IBM PC and other micros. DR's rival Microsoft now claims to be delivering its own similar system, MS Windows, to manufacturers, so there is hope of seeing it on user's desktops, albeit almost two years after it was first announced. The unexpected entrant is Epsom with its own software, Taxi, running on the new QX-16.

However, the most important GEM machine is the Atari 520ST, but it now seems this will not go on sale until September. The 520ST is important because the people who could really benefit from a Macintosh can't afford the cost of a user friendly system—several thousand pounds. The 520ST promises more power for £750. It will be great if it works.

While 3.5in disc drives have been important this year, the hoped-for market has not yet been launched. These include the Atari 520ST, again, and the IBM PCII and IBM laptop computers. Sinclair did not, as I recommended, launch a new version of the QL with a built-in 3.5in disc. Apple has not yet



Sir Clive Sinclair at the launch of the QL: a survivor?

## Jack Schofield goes back to his crystal VDU to check the progress of his predictions for 1985

# How today compares with yesterday

launched the inevitable 3.5in drive for the Apple II series. Sadly, Amstrad went for the cheaper 5in size for the built-in disc in the new 664.

Sinclair is, at last, trying to standardise disc formats for the QL by adopting the MicroPeripherals system. The plan is to sell twin 720K 3.5in microfloppies under £500 but it may be too much too late.

When it comes to 128K micros, I wrote of a "bloodbath" and "the price of 64K-bit RAM chips tumbling". Chips which cost £1 each at

Christmas now cost 50p, which means 128K uses £8-worth.

The main newcomer has been the Atari 130XE, which I wrote would cost "under £200". Actually it costs £179, and can be found for £150 if you shop around. Enterprise has also launched a 128K machine at £250. These two join the Sinclair QL, Memotech RS128, Apple IIc and Apricot F1 which had 128K already.

Three machines have failed to appear in the UK. The Commodore C128 multi-personality machine has been

shown but not delivered. The 128K Amstrad has been shown only in the USA. The Oric 1Q164 did not appear before a bankrupt Oric was sold to a French company; it is now merely a minor footnote in British microcomputer history.

Oric was just one of several failures. However, when I said British hardware companies would "take a pasting" I did not foresee the rapid virtual collapse of both Sinclair and Acorn. "Uncle Clive will survive," I averred. Now I am not so sure.

Acorn certainly deserves to

have gone out of business years ago, for its ridiculous pricing of the Acorn BBC B, and for deliberately crippling the Electron then delivering it 18 months late. However, I observed that "a corn specialises in walking on water," and I didn't honestly see why that should not continue.

I was all too correct in observing "the Plus4 won't succeed at £299," but I did not expect it to be selling in Dixons now for under £100. My prediction that the C16 "will be short lived" can be held over for the rest of the year. I still think this machine

is not worth buying. The profit made by those currently offering it at £80 may also mean it is not worth selling.

The failure of the Japanese MSX machines was easy to predict, and obviously came to pass. Those still interested will find some sale along Tottenham Court Road at roughly half price "while stocks last." Unfortunately there is an MSX-II on the horizon, which merely proves that even well-respected Japanese super-corporations can have cloth between the ears when

it comes to the micro market. When it comes to business machines, predicting more IBM PC look-alikes was obviously a safe bet. Commodore, Ferranti and Zenith are among the year's crop, with a number of Far Eastern clones like the Spirit, Paperlog and Leading Edge PC about to inflate supply even more.

What I should have highlighted was the explosion of IBM PC AT-compatibles, which has actually been the main feature of the year so far. Intertec, Kaypro, Compaq, Zenith, NCR, Tele-

Video, Texas Instruments, Corona, ITT and Paperlog have all announced machines based on the same Intel 80286 chip. Ferranti and ACT can be expected to follow.

However, they may all come a cropper. People may decide they don't need an AT-like, they just need the same sort of speed and power—and PC-compatibles like the Olivetti M-24 already offer that.

I still think Christmas 1985 could be the end of the road for the old 8-bit micro, we know (and mostly) love. However, we have yet to see new machines based on 16-bit chips, which even if they offer compatibility with their 8-bit forebears. This way the software base can be retained, while a development path is opened for the future.

The chips in question are the Western Design Centre's W65C816, to replace the 65C816, and either the Hitachi HD-64180 or Zilog's Z-800, to replace the familiar Z-80 chip. I still think the W65C816 is bound to appear this year in an Apple II, and probably represents Acorn's only hope of long-term survival.

One of the advantages of writing in a newspaper is that people are unlikely to keep copies and tick off one's failures as they come to light. Giving an accurate impression of the present is thus, perhaps, more important than foretelling the future.

However, most of the columns in this series have been factual rather than speculative, and particularly aimed at helping newcomers to microcomputing to get a grasp of the subject. A selection of these have been updated and published as *The Guardian Guide to Microcomputing* (Basil Blackwell, £5.95 in paperback).

The 37 chapters cover a wide range of subjects such as choosing a micro and peripherals, home and serious applications, programming languages and programming, communications, electronic mail and—briefly—business computing. If you enjoy a bit of general information you may find the book versions useful.

# The down-to-earth story of the geologists and the micro

## Bill Sowerbutts reports on how a learned society discovered new horizons

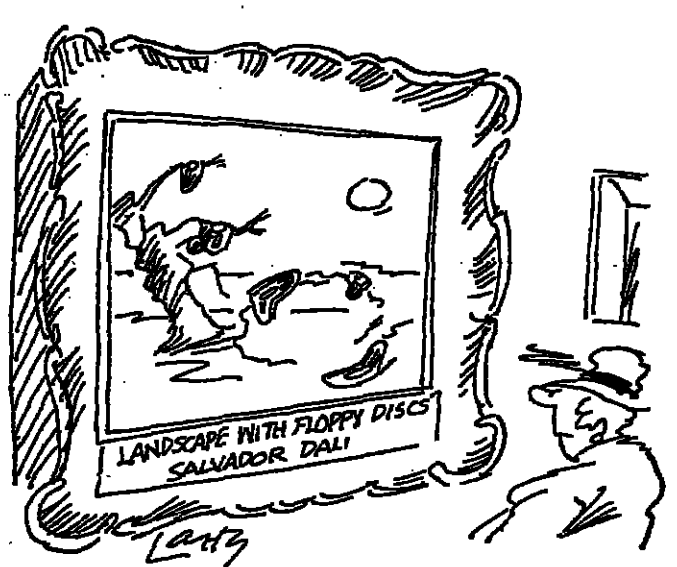
NOT long ago the oak-panelled rooms of the Geological Society of London resounded to the quiet chatter of a brood of microcomputers and their attendant printers and plotters. The occasion was a geological computer fair arranged by the Society's geological information group. It provided confirmation of what geologists have long regarded as essential tools in almost every branch of the earth sciences.

Three exhibits showed engineering geology applications. A microcomputer-based image processing system developed by the Transport and Road Research Laboratory showed how techniques normally only considered possible on a powerful mainframe computer, with careful thought and not a little ingenuity, be adapted to

use on a microcomputer. The system consisted of a Torch microcomputer, a Pluto graphics controller and a Microvise colour monitor. It is used to display Landsat satellite images of overseas countries where new roads are planned, extract information about the geology from them, and identify places where problems with slope stability are likely.

The Torch used contains two processing units: a 6502 board (essentially a BBC micro) controlling its hardware, and a Z80 CPU to control the programs. Landsat data are stored on a 20 Mbyte hard disc. The graphics controller has three memory boards, each capable of storing 640 pixels by 576 lines in a 4-bit resolution. Each board is connected to one colour gun on the monitor giving a picture with a possible total of 4096 colours. The result is a high quality full colour Landsat image on equipment costing a total of about £5,000.

Two exhibits were of microcomputers for calculating the stability of slopes produced in



rock by civil engineering work. One was a Research Machines 380Z from Imperial College showing being used studying new methods of slope stability analysis. The everyday use of microcomputers for slope stability calculations was illustrated by an exhibit by Soil Mechanics Ltd.

The British Geological Survey, which is involved in

almost every aspect of geology, not just in Britain but overseas, had five working demonstrations. Three showed how micros are being used on field projects and how they allow geological information to be checked and assessed as it is collected instead of on return to the office when it's too late for mistakes to be corrected. One was a Cifer 1887 microcomputer used specifically for overseas work where power supplies are often unreliable and working conditions harsh. It is used mainly by exploration geologists working in developing countries to process geochemical data so it can be assessed adequately on the spot.

The same underlying philosophy was evident with another BGS demonstration, centred on an Apple II machine used on geophysical surveys. In this branch of the earth sciences micros are connected to geophysical instruments and programmed to record measurements automatically, and to interpret results in the field. A Research Machines 380Z,

used for logging and processing gamma-ray measurements made at sea, provided further proof that microcomputers can get to the places other computers can't reach.

Rocks are weakly radioactive, the amount of radioactivity varying from one rock type to another. By towing a gamma ray detector along the seabed and measuring this natural radioactivity it is possible to map the rock types forming the sea bottom. The 380Z is used to log four channels of gamma ray detector output through an RS232C interface, and to plot the results, and work out the ship's position from navigational information so that precisely defined survey lines can be followed.

Any major project to find and extract a natural resource such as oil, gas or minerals generates vast amounts of geological information. Much of this has to be assessed while exploration is in progress, and much of it is used to plan the next step in further exploration. The micro is used to

perform specific tasks on information either before it is entered into geological databases stored on mainframe computers, or after it has been extracted from them.

A Husky Hunter hand-held computer formed part of a demonstration by Britoil on their computerised core store. Britoil has rock samples from over 700 wells stored in a large warehouse in Glasgow. Movable microprocessor controlled racking is used so that when a specific sample is needed it can be located and extracted semi-automatically. Information about each sample, including its location within the core-store is kept in a database on an IBM mainframe. When new samples are added to the store, information is keyed into the Husky. Once a day this battery-powered micro is connected to the mainframe, direct data transfer takes place and the database is updated.

A Rair Black Box 330 micro was shown being used with bibliographic database to

provide information about minerals. Called Minsearch, this machine is operated by a micro and used with specialised software to provide information about mineral deposits, exploration and mining activity, and things like mineral economics and mining regulations.

Demonstrations from the universities of Glasgow and Hull gave an insight into how computers are being used in geology departments for teaching and research. Both showed how, by using data files with the general structure, a small suite of programs could be used to process and plot data from a range of different subjects.

A program for the computer-aided description of soil and rock samples, as seen under a microscope, was demonstrated on an Apple II from Kingston Polytechnic.

Bill Sowerbutts is Lecturer in Geophysics at Manchester University and currently the geological information group representative for members with an interest in microcomputers.

The combination of computer and radar is beginning to change the nature of control of the sea lanes. David Fairhall reports

## Harwich throws out a lifeline

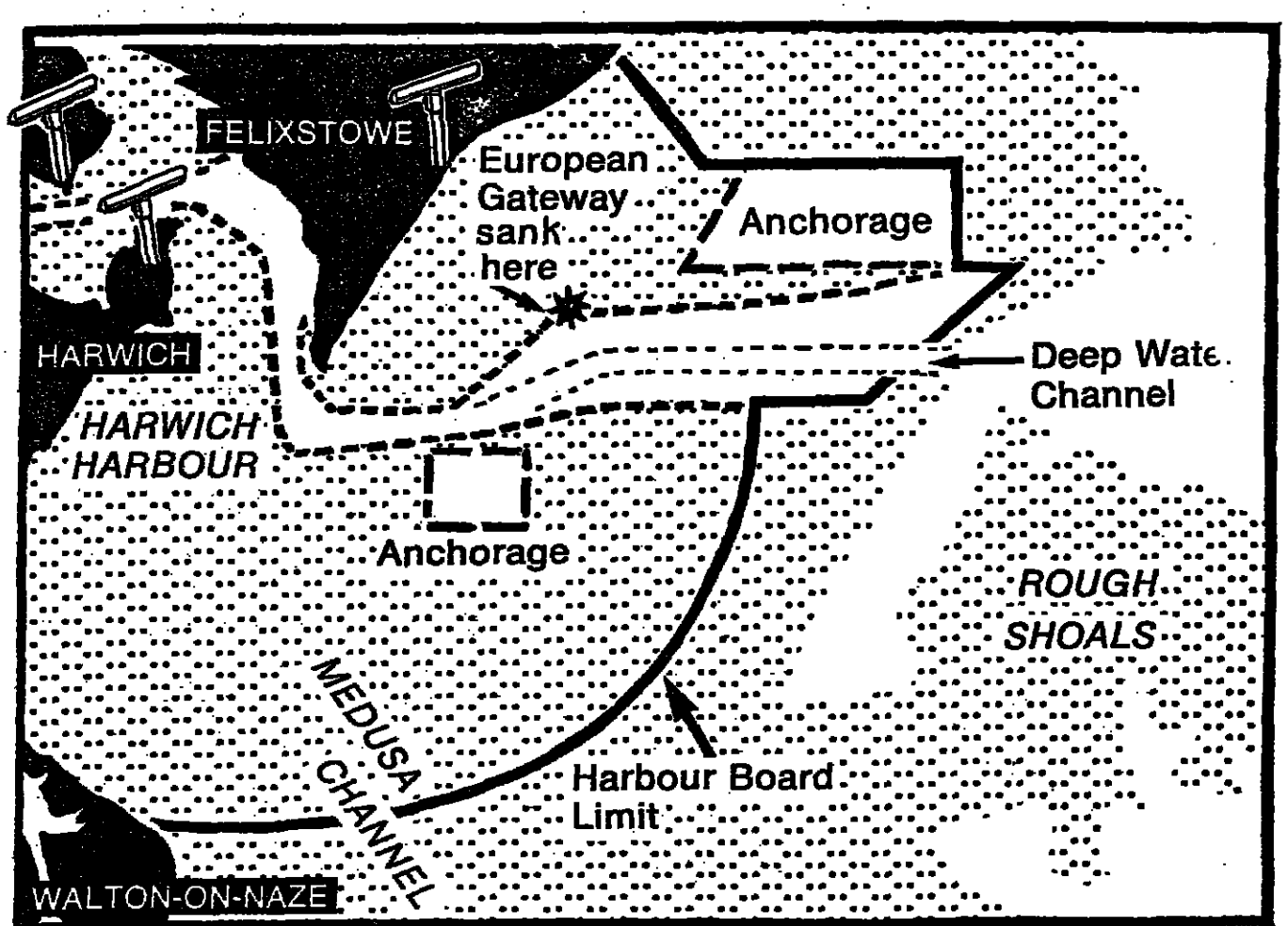


Illustration by David Turner

IN A December gale three years ago, the vehicle ferry European Gateway collided with the rail ferry Speedlink Vanguard in the twisting approaches to Harwich Harbour and sank in shallow water on the nearby Felixstowe ledge.

It is tempting, but incorrect, to suggest that it was this dramatic collision which prompted the Harwich Harbour Board to ask Marconi Radar Systems, just down the road at Chelmsford, to design a new radar control system, one that with the aid of future collisions can confidently be avoided. The truth is far more complicated. But the December 1982 casualty was at least a symbolic factor in the Harbour Board's decision to do so, properly applied, a modern radar display can indirectly help to avoid collisions. In this respect the maritime world is cautiously edging towards a revolution where the positive direction of traffic from the ground, even without radar, has long been established.

At sea, the master on his bridge is traditionally obedient only to God. Any interference from shore-based "armchair" sailors is treated with suspicion. But over the years since the Torrey Canyon disaster, a series of wrecks and collisions, especially those involving oil pollution, has persuaded even seafarers that some degree of external control is sensible. One-way routing systems are now in place all around the British Isles, and the Assistant Harbour Master (Operations) at Harwich, Captain Roderick Shaw, believes that in a busy port like his, it is logical to extend the routing principle right into harbour.

To help make the system work, he has been requiring, for instance, that ships report in advance before entering the by radio channel. But he works on the basis of not of absolute direction, the typical master of a Dutch coaster would take no notice anyway but of advice and information much of which he derives from his radar. "I work on the basis that a master ignores our advice at his peril," he says.

With the resources available in the harbour control tower just behind the town

quay, he reckons he is bound to know more about what is going to happen in the next few minutes than any individual ship's master. He can warn a container ship departing from Felixstowe opposite that if she leaves now she will find herself swinging in the channel just as a passenger ferry comes round the corner from Parkstone. He can warn a vessel approaching offshore that unless she slows down she will meet the ferry on one

of the awkward bends in the channel just outside—as the Speedlink Vanguard did that December night.

Wherever possible, the aim is to prevent big awkward vessels getting to those quarters where their room for manoeuvre is limited. "Let them do their hard-starboards, where there's plenty of water," says Captain Shaw. He has no intention of using his new radar system for collision avoidance in the

direct sense, though some of its computerised facilities—such as the vectors predicting course and speed—might tempt someone who really was an armchair sailor.

"Once they get into that area," he says, "it's strictly bridge to bridge." The man out there watching the changing perspective of the other ship's navigation lights must have the ultimate freedom of decision to match his ultimate responsibility—which is not

to say he might not appreciate a course to steer for a safe anchorage when he's lost in fog and his own radar is on the blink.

Captain Shaw reckons that the key to gaining the shipmaster's confidence, and hence his co-operation, is to give accurate advice when it's needed. The harbour control service, in other words, is only as good as the information it gives out. For instance one of the facilities offered by

Marconi's computerised display is an automatic warning if a channel marker buoy drags out of position. As Shaw sees it, "it would be wrong for a ship to tell a port authority that one of its buoys was off station."

A whole range of complex plotting facilities could have been programmed into the display, but just the port controller is cautious about interfering with the shipmaster's independence, the Marconi engineers have been careful not to force unwanted changes on the shipmaster's controller. They have also left the "raw" radar available in case he is suspicious of a completely synthetic picture.

Harwich has had a radar for ten years. It turned to Marconi to update and expand an existing system and the Chelmsford company was keen to move into this relatively new market as a diversification from its normal naval work.

By naval standards, there is nothing spectacular about the Harwich radar. Marconi left the existing scanner where it was and added two more, on the seaward side of the existing scanner, and on Shotley Spit, to look up river to the Parkstone ferry berths. Looking seaward, Captain Shaw specified that he must be able to see navigational buoys and pilot boats ten miles out. Many yachts will still be "invisible" and some of them, he fears, will still come motoring up the river in full daylight, not hidden away behind curtains, in other words, but mounted right under the main windows on a marked ship's course, speed, and range without either cluttering the display with too much detail or pretending the computer can solve problems that can only be solved at sea.

## LETTERS:

### A few loose ends

Sir—Whilst I claim no particular mathematical skills in the field of topology and I found the article by Ian Stewart (Micro, July 11) somewhat abstruse, I do claim a lifetime expertise in the collection of loose ends. I am writing to you in the hope of stringing and would object that the diagram, by Peter Clarke, breaks several of the rules of topology.

For example "the rule of two" states that every piece of string has two, and only two, loose ends. Now this diagram quite clearly shows five loose ends. One piece of string would give two loose ends, two pieces gives four loose ends, but five is a physical impossibility.

Then there's the Gordian knot of entanglement which so baffled Alexander. This states that the number of lines entering a knot must be equal to the number leaving. If we study the thumb to the right of the diagram we see three lines entering from the left, one pursuing a turn or spiral rotation and exiting to the right, but what of the other two?

There is in fact an escape clause possible here, by means of a "hook turn," probably in this particular case by means of a "hang-nail," whereby one of the lines is allowed to latch around said projection and thus reverse its direction and exit on the same side as that by which it entered. The thumb to the left of the diagram would require two such hooks to satisfy the needs of the diagram, presumably driven into the meta-carpal bone. The middle finger of the hand to the right of the diagram would also bear deeper analysis.—Sincerely yours, M.D. Ball, Guildford.

There is a solid industrial reason why mathematicians are required to make themselves familiar with the instruction set of at least one kind of microprocessor and to learn the elements of assembly language programming: a highly important use of computers in the future is going to be the use of microprocessors in a dedicated mode in other products, and for this reason programming is indispensable for the best results.

There are also solid educational reasons for teaching beginners something about assembly language programming: there is no better way of learning what kind of beast a computing machine really is than studying the instruction set of some microprocessor, like the classic little Intel 8080 (which will give you great insight into what is actually going on inside the stylised language between keyboard and screen).

All you can really learn from using a high-level language is how to think. I would be the last person to disparage that, but you can learn how to think without going anywhere near a machine, and surely we do need to teach beginners something solid and basic about computing, as well as about thinking. Grahame Leman, 11 Shakespeare Road, London W3.

### A sense of proportion

Sir—As a mathematician, your correspondent Keith Devlin has been asked to measure a sheet of A4 paper in order to determine the ratio of its sides (Futures, July 18). The geometry of the A-series paper is such that, if a sheet, the aspect ratio is  $\sqrt{2}$ , so that when the sheet is folded in half it becomes  $\sqrt{2}$ , thereby maintaining the same value of 1.414—to which his figure is only an approximation.—Yours faithfully, Sheila M. Weir, Paul Cockram, Lancashire Polytechnic, Preston.

### Keeping on a low level

Sir—The correspondence about what programming language should be used in teaching beginners, antipathetic me by saying nothing at all about assembly language programming.



# Rothmans International SCIENTISTS

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from £13,000 : Essex

Rothmans International is a diversified and successful international group with worldwide sales of around £2,500 million and a strong record of profit growth. The work of our R&D scientists has been one of the elements of the company's continuing success and has led to the expansion of this R&D function based at the company's existing site at Basildon, Essex.

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... to assist in the research and development of the mechanical aspects of filtration and cigarette construction. Educated to degree level in Mechanical Engineering you should have a sound knowledge of the engineering principles of processes and machinery relating to filter and cigarette making or similar operations. Experience of R&D, problem solving and/or the design of related processes/machinery would be desirable.

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... to provide a specialised analytical service in support of the product research and development programme and innovate and develop methods for the analysis of tobacco leaf and smoke. This will involve leading a team of up to seven staff. Educated to degree level in chemistry you should have previous experience in the application of a broad range of analytical techniques, including gas and liquid chromatography, spectrometry and auto-analysis.

## Scientist - Analytical Development & Services (Electronics)

... to design and construct specialised instrumentation for research and development, including the development of appropriate software, electronics and hardware systems. With a degree or equivalent in electronics or a related science you should have specialist skills for use in the design of digital and analog circuits and the application of software systems in PASCAL and ASSEMBLER code together with the use of transducers, actuators, and stepper-motors and their interfacing. Knowledge of micro-computer and single-board computer use in input/output and control applications is also essential.

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## Scientist - Chemistry Development & Services (Chemistry)

... to undertake detailed evaluation of the chemistry of cigarette smoke and tobacco and to solve chemical problems relating to the product and the production process. You should have a PhD - or degree plus three years' experience - in Analytical Chemistry, together with wide experience of chromatography and other instrumental techniques, such as mass spectrometry, UV and IR spectroscopy. The ability to innovate methods for the resolution of complex analytical chemistry problems is essential.

## Assistant Scientist Flavour Development & Services

... to operate a sensory evaluation facility for tobacco products and to initiate sensory research projects within the overall R&D programme. You should be educated to degree level or equivalent in a Flavour/Food Science or related discipline and have knowledge of sensory testing as a tool for product development. The ability to evaluate new techniques, in the context of their application to tobacco products is essential as is experience in the operation of sensory panels. The starting salary for this appointment will be from £11,000 depending upon age, qualifications and experience.

Please write for an application form, indicating the position(s) of interest to Miss Jean Barnes, Personnel Manager, Rothmans International, Christopher Martin Road, Basildon, Essex.

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For an application form please telephone or write to: The Employment Manager (Ref AIR/20), British Aerospace (Aircraft), Filton House, Bristol BS99 7AR. Tel: Bristol (0272) 693831 Ext. 4396.

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Write to CCS Staff Section, Room 693 at Tel: 01-633 6089. Application forms must be returned by 9 August 85.

To obtain your form write to the appropriate Staff Section, quoting the ref. and room number on the envelope, to: GLC, The County Hall, London SE1 7PS. Or telephone the number given.

The GLC is an equal opportunities employer. We invite applications from women and men from all sections of the community, irrespective of their ethnic origin, colour, sexual orientation or disability, who have the necessary attributes to do the job.

Job sharing arrangements are open to all applicants.

## REMOTE SENSING

The Natural Environment Research Council is a government-funded body responsible for research in the environmental sciences. The use of remote sensing techniques to aid this research is increasing rapidly as new methods and opportunities to acquire data are becoming available. We require a person to assist the Remote Sensing Planning Group Leader to fulfil an important remit:

□ provision of advice on policy relating to the use of space and airborne remote sensing techniques.

□ identification of services and facilities needed to meet the new opportunities.

□ liaison with national and international bodies. Special duties associated with the post include the identification of requirements and priorities for remote sensing systems and involvement in the preparations required for future satellite missions. The successful candidate will be based in Swindon but will be expected to undertake some travelling, both within the UK and abroad.

Candidates should have a degree in a maths, science or engineering subject, a wide knowledge of remote sensing techniques and applications, and some practical post-graduate experience in the use of remote sensing methods.

The appointment will be to the grade of Higher Scientific Officer or Senior Scientific Officer and the starting salary will be in the range £7,788 to £10,541 (HSO) or £9,772 to £12,653 (SSO), dependent on age, qualifications and experience.

The NERC is not a government department, but conditions of service are similar to those of the Civil Service.

For further information and an application form, please contact Sue Purdie at Holbrook House, Station Road, Swindon SN1 1DE, telephone 0793 40101, ext 523, quoting reference MP34.

The closing date for return of completed application forms is 6 August, 1985.

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British Maritime Technology Ltd. (BMT), which was formed in April following the merger of BSRA and NMI Ltd. is one of the largest maritime consultants and research organisations in the UK. The Company employs about 500 staff spread across four sites in England, and has extensive facilities such as a significant computer network, towing tanks and wind tunnels.

We are currently constructing a purpose built CAD/CAM Centre for the North East on our site at Wallsend, financed jointly by Tyne & Wear Metropolitan County Council and ourselves. As well as the most up to date CAD/CAM equipment this will incorporate a lecture theatre and office accommodation.

We are seeking a CAD/CAM Centre Manager. Reporting to the Divisional Manager of Computing and Information Technology, the job holder will set up and run the Centre from the start, and will specifically:-

\* Undertake the commercial planning, budgeting and operational control of the Centre.

\* Plan and lead the market strategy and sales effort.

\* Manage the small highly qualified team of staff at the Centre.

In order to be successful you will need to be a self-starter who can demonstrate success in a commercial high tech environment. Exposure to the Marketing and Sales Functions is essential. You are likely to be a graduate in engineering and a formal management qualification is also desirable.

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**BMT**

British Maritime Technology

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- Viewdata.
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Ideally you will possess general business consultancy and IT skills. You will be familiar with ICL office systems products, plus other suppliers such as Rank Xerox and Apple.

For further information please contact Peter Horrocks on ext 263 at Bolton 22311.

Application forms are available from the Personnel Officer, Town Hall, Bolton BL1 1RU (tel: 22311, exts 567 and 6105) to be returned by 6th August. Trade Union membership is a condition of service.

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## Graduate Scientist

### Assessments Department

The National Radiological Protection Board is the major centre of reference for radiological protection in the UK. It provides an important information and advisory service to Government Departments and others concerned with protecting mankind from radiation hazards.

The Assessments Department currently requires a young graduate scientist to be employed on work connected with the prediction of the radiological impact of current and future power programmes using mathematical modelling techniques. The post offers good career opportunities for someone wishing to gain valuable experience in the environmental modelling associated with radiological protection.

Entry qualifications: A good degree in a relevant discipline; candidates with a special aptitude for mathematical techniques would be preferred.

The appointment is graded Scientific Officer and starting salary will be within the range £6,625-£9,165 p.a. depending on qualifications and relevant experience. Application forms can be obtained from: Establishment and Personnel Office (REF: A200/R), National Radiological Protection Board, Chilton, Didcot, Oxon OX11 0RQ.

Tel: Abingdon (0235) 851600, Ext. 543/553. Closing date for receipt of completed applications: 15th August 1985.

National Radiological  
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Applications, in complete confidence, quoting Ref. C257 and cv to full c.c. to the Personnel Officer, Mrs. B. C. Lusk, from whom further particulars will be obtained. BRITISH CERAMIC RESEARCH ASSOCIATION, Dunsford Road, Parkhill, Stoke-on-Trent ST4 7LD. Tel: 0782 92431

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The CVS Technical Group in Manchester is the major technical resource of the Society covering a wide variety of food and non-food products manufactured in CVS factories or packed by outside contractors.

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**Packaging Systems Officer**

The Packaging Systems Section is responsible for the identification and evaluation of suitable machines and systems to perform all packaging related tasks within both food and non-food production units. The originator of machinery specifications and initial factory layout drawings will form part of the duties.

You should be qualified to Degree standard in Engineering, preferably with several years experience of packaging systems.

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The Food Products Development Section is concerned with the identification and development of products which meet market requirements and which can be produced in CVS manufacturing units. Updating and improvement of existing products is also a responsibility of this section.

You should be qualified to Degree standard in Food Technology or a related subject, preferably with several years experience in the food industry.

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The Process Development Section is responsible for ensuring the safety of products processed within our own factories and for the introduction of new processes. Identification and evaluation of capital plant for CVS production units constitutes a major part of the work.

A Degree standard qualification in Chemical Engineering or related subject will be required preferably with several years experience in the food industry in a process development or control role.

Please apply in writing for an application form to:- Mrs. M. O. Raisin, Administration & Welfare Officer, CVS Technical Group, 28 Knowsley Street, Manchester M8 8JU.

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One of the North West's leaders in robotics and remote handling systems is developing further its technical capability in innovative real time projects at the leading edge of technology.

Day to day management of electrical, control and instrumentation design projects (incorporating micro-processor based systems) continues to increase in importance. To ensure deadlines are met and standards are maintained a Manager is to be appointed who will co-ordinate and manage a small team of professional engineers and draughtsmen. He or she will also be responsible for sub-

contracted software development programmes.

Candidates, aged ideally 28 to 35 will be graduates or professionally qualified electrical/electronics engineers with several years experience in the management of a team associated with design and development of control and instrumentation systems in the nuclear, mechanical handling, machine tool or similar industries.

Salary is negotiable in line with experience. Relocation expenses will be payable where appropriate.

Applicants should write with full C.V. quoting ref. A/P/10 to March Personnel Services, 33, King Street, Manchester, M2 8AA.

**MARCH**

PERSONNEL SERVICES

**PAGE U.S.A. \$30-70K**

Our clients, U.S. 'blue chip' companies, require computing professionals with experience of ACP/TPP/PARS for their Data Centres located in the major business centres throughout the U.S.A.

We require applicants for the following immediate and future positions:

- Systems Programmers**
- Systems Communications-Programmers**
- Applications Programmers**
- ACP Console Operators**
- ACP Systems Consultants**
- Communications Network Analysts**
- Managers MVS Products**

For details of complete package call 01-556 8822 and send full c.v. to: Page International Limited, Page House, 590 Lee Bridge Road, London E10 7DN.

(Agency)

**Assistant  
General Manager  
Falkland Islands  
Development Corporation**

FIDC is a Government Agency charged with encouraging the economic development of the Falkland Islands. Since its establishment in July 1984, FIDC has initiated a planned programme of diversification and expansion across all sectors of the economy. The Corporation aims to build upon the traditional agricultural base of the Islands whilst seeking to encourage development in fisheries, tourism, industrial and service sectors of the economy.

The Assistant General Manager will be Secretary to the FIDC Board and will be responsible to the General Manager for the appraisal and investigation of applications for assistance, the operation of schemes arrangements for the FIDC's clients, encouragement and development of existing enterprises and the initiation and encouragement of new enterprises established by individuals, companies or the FIDC itself.

Applicants should be British Citizens with experience in rural economic development and should be capable of producing detailed financial projections. Managerial experience in the private sector would be an advantage.

The appointment is on contract to the Overseas Development Administration for a period of two/three years. Salary (subject to U.K. income tax) is in the range £17,000 to £23,000 p.a. dependent on experience and qualifications plus a tax free overseas allowance up to £3,000 p.a. subject to marital status.

Applications will be accepted up to 22 August 1985 and interviews will be held late August 1985.

For further details and application form, please apply, quoting ref. AHSX/CS/10, stating post code, and send photocopy of cv to: Mr. G. J. Hyde, Overseas Development Administration, Room AHSX, Abercrombie House, Engleham Road, EAST KILBRIDE, Glasgow G25 8EA. Tel: 0682 4108.

**OVERSEAS  
ODA DEVELOPMENT**  
Britain helping nations to help themselves

**GRADUATE OPPORTUNITY  
JUNIOR MARKETING SERVICES ANALYST**

Canada Maritime was formed in January 1984 when two great names - CP Ships and CMB - themselves part of major transportation groups - joined to form one of the strongest and most committed container services linking Europe and North America.

We require a recent graduate to work with a highly qualified team in our Marketing Services Department. You will probably have a business studies or related degree which has developed your numeracy and analytical ability, as well as user experience of business computer applications plus a keen interest in marketing.

You will be responsible for producing and analysing regular performance reports, using both computer-based and manual methods, with some involvement in ad hoc exercises, market plans and market analysis.

An attractive salary with competitive fringe benefits awaits the right person. **Suitably qualified applicants should write with full c.v. to: L.W. Thorne, Personnel Manager, Canada Maritime Services Limited, 50 Finsbury Square, London EC2A 1DD. Telephone: 01-638 5555.**

To book your advertisement  
telephone 01-278 2332  
or 061-832 7200, ext. 2161 (Manchester)

**Computer Aided Engineering  
INSTRUCTOR/  
DEMONSTRATOR  
(Mechanical Engineering)**

c£16K + Car S. Engl

Our client has pioneered minicomputer technology for the most demanding applications. The recent UK launch of a system for 2D and 3D mechanical design concepts within a totally integrated system has created an exciting career opportunity for an Engineer/Instructor to develop with this Division of a world renowned company. The ideal candidate will be:

- Aged over 24 years.
- Qualified to Degree or equivalent in a computer related discipline.
- Knowledgeable of computer aided design systems (preferably mechanical).
- Experienced in demonstrating/teaching practical course.

The successful candidate will, after initial product training responsible for customer and engineer training on all product related and future enhancement courses. There will also be responsibility for demonstrations of the complete systems to customers in-house and at exhibitions within the U.K.

The benefits will include an excellent starting salary with a large company benefits and a relocation package to a pleasant rural part of Southern England.

For an initial and confidential discussion please call Bob Archibold on Newbury (0635) 33445 quoting ref. A/313/G or write in strict confidence to:-

**ARCHIBOLD RAE CONSULTANTS LT**  
(High Technology Search & Selection),  
ARC House, 11-13 The Broadway,  
Newbury, Berkshire RG13 1AS.  
Tel: Newbury (0635) 33445.

**ARC**

**Ergonomist**

The Ergonomics and Work Study Unit, based in London, provides a consultancy service for the Ministry and other colleagues in the UK and abroad.

This is an opportunity to make full use of your innovative abilities and to work on an independent basis in co-operation with the Agricultural Development and Advisory Service (ADAS) Services, other Government departments, universities and commercial industry on any matter concerning human involvement in agriculture or horticulture.

You will be involved in giving advice on work study techniques to ADAS advisers as well as the farming industry. Your day-to-day activities will include research and development as well as promotional work for ADAS.

You should have a degree or equivalent in ergonomics. A general background knowledge of agriculture and horticulture would be an advantage.

Starting salary: £9,185-£12,035 (including £1,365 inner London weighting) according to qualification and experience.

For further details and an application form (to be returned by 16 August 1985) write to Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants, RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 46855 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref. T/6595.

The Civil Service is an equal opportunity employer

Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food



# On-line systems development for Unit Linked Products Bristol

We are one of the country's leading life offices and our latest systems development project centres on our new and highly successful range of Unit Linked Products.

We anticipate a development period for this project alone of 2-3 years, involving a team of 18 people. The system will use real time processing and database techniques and will embrace all aspects of Unit Linked Life Assurance, from receipt of initial application through to policy maturity.

With a continuing objective of improving our standards of service to policyholders and financial advisers, this major project has created opportunities for experienced Systems Analysts to join the team in its early stages, influence its

progress and contribute to its successful implementation.

Direct experience in the Life Assurance industry will be an advantage but training is available to analysts with other financial systems backgrounds.

Based in one of the most attractive and buoyant areas in the country, we offer salaries up to £12,500 plus a comprehensive benefits package which includes relocation assistance, preferential mortgage facilities and a non-contributory pension scheme.

Our commitment to investing in new systems also opens up considerable career development opportunities.

If you have 4 years or more systems experience and are looking for an environment that will allow you room to expand and express your skills, phone Bill Stevenson on Bristol (0272) 290566 ext. 145.

Alternatively write with CV to Miss Sophie Bindloss, Personnel Officer, Clerical Medical and General Life Assurance Society, Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0JH.

## Clerical Medical

## Experimental Solid State Physicists

Vacancies exist for solid state physicists to work in the neutron scattering experimental programme at the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory's Spallation Neutron Source. The SNS is an intense pulsed source which has recently become operational and which is of world significance to future research in the fields of physics, chemistry, biology and materials science.

The appointees would be expected to advance the use of neutron inelastic scattering in the study of condensed matter and the duties would involve developing new neutron spectrometers as well as providing experimental support to University groups which use the SNS facility. Candidates are also expected to be capable of making significant contributions of their own to the future SNS scientific programme. Previous experience in neutron, x-ray or electron scattering techniques is desirable but not essential. Applicants should however have demonstrated their research potential and ideally have some experience of instrumentation development or computing.

The appointments will be made in the Higher Scientific Officer grade salary range £7788-10541 per annum.

Candidates should have a degree or equivalent in a scientific subject, plus at least 2 years post graduate research experience for applicants with 1st or 2nd class honours degrees or their equivalent. Other applicants are required to have at least 5 years of appropriate scientific experience after qualifying.

The Rutherford Appleton Laboratory is a friendly community with its own restaurant and sports facilities. Our transport covers towns and villages in the area. Excellent working conditions and generous holidays apply. This is a pensionable appointment.

Contact Recruitment Office, Personnel Group, Science and Engineering Research Council, Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, Chilton, Didcot, Oxon OX11 0QX, Tel: (0235) 445435, quoting reference VN 364.

Closing date: 16th August 1985



## Systems Engineers- Control, Computers & Communications Power, Water & Offshore Up to £16,000 North West

Our client, a leading firm of consulting engineers, is expanding its capabilities in the design and engineering of control instrumentation, communication and computer based systems, particularly for the power, water and offshore industries. To meet this new stage of growth they now require engineers (male/female) with experience to join them at this exciting stage of their development.

You will be involved in a wide range of projects applying new technology for major clients in the power, water, process and defence industries.

To join our client's existing highly motivated team you must have imagination and flair and experience of systems design and application in one of these fields. Our client offers suitably qualified engineers both an attractive benefits package, including relocation assistance where necessary, and considerable opportunity for personal and career development.

Please write or phone for an application form, stating in a covering letter any companies with whom you would not wish your details discussed, quoting reference number NH 1268 to:-

**Nicholls  
Hanley  
& Associates Limited**

D. P. Nicholls, Nicholls Hanley & Associates Limited, Ashley House, 30 Ashley Road, Altrincham, Cheshire WA14 2JW. Tel: 061-941 5707.

## SOFTWARE CONSULTANT REAL-TIME SYSTEMS

Cambs

£18,000

This top-level opportunity is with a world leader in the development of Scientific Instrument Systems which employ advanced real-time signal processing, image analysis and control techniques. The appointment carries key responsibility for advancing the company's software expertise:

- Providing high-level technical leadership to teams developing packages in Pascal & Assembler for real-time 280/58000 based systems using VAX/VMS development tools.
- Maintaining and advancing Software Development Philosophy, Methodology & Codes of Practice.
- Ensuring that software teams are appropriately staffed & trained and that each team member's potential is fully developed.
- Monitoring the quality of Software Specifications, Design, Coding and Documentation.
- Maintaining a high level of personal expertise and a detailed awareness of international advances in Software Technology and particularly to provide a bridge between the company's Research and Product Design groups on the introduction of intelligent and Expert Systems.

You should have a good qualification in Computer Science or Electronic Engineering; broad experience in the computer or electronics environment and particular experience in the specification and design of structured software for real-time application. Familiarity with 'Yourdon' methodology would be a plus.

There is an excellent salary & benefits package which includes pension; life & health insurance and, in appropriate circumstances, a generous relocation allowance.

To discuss this opportunity please call Mike Gurnall Tel: 452 on 0638 - 762244 or send your cv to: **ELECTRONIC COMPUTER AID MANAGEMENT RECRUITMENT LIMITED**, The Maltings, High Street, Buntingford Cambs CB8 0HS

## COMPUTER SCIENCE INSTRUCTOR HIGH TAX-FREE SALARY

British Aerospace has a vacancy on its staff at the King Faisal Air Academy at Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, for a Computer Science Instructor to teach the subject to flight cadets of the Royal Saudi Air Force. The high salary offered will be tax-free subject to completing a minimum of one year's service in Saudi Arabia.

Applicants for this post should have a Bachelor's degree in an appropriate discipline, such as Maths, Science, Engineering or Computer Science. They should have at least 5 years' instructional/teaching experience, and a good knowledge of BASIC. Familiarity with micro-computing and word-processing are essential. As well as teaching duties, responsibilities will include associated administrative tasks.

In addition to the high tax-free salary, the successful candidate will receive free accommodation, messing, medical care and other benefits, including travel-paid UK leave.

Please apply in writing, giving brief details of appropriate experience, quoting reference B37/G to: The Personnel Officer, Saudi Arabia Support Dept., FREEPOST, British Aerospace (Aircraft), Warton Division, Warton Aerodrome, Preston, Lancs PR4 1LA or telephone Preston 634317.



## FIFTEEN REAL TIME PROGRAMMERS! 12 MONTHS CALIFORNIA — 12 MONTHS SCANDINAVIA

We have an urgent need for up to 15 programmers possessing a BSc, coupled with at least four years' software experience in real time systems, for special applications programmes in FORTRAN and 'C' language for a very large database application in a military environment.

Twelve months' familiarisation in California will be followed by at least one year on site in Scandinavia.

Excellent after-tax salaries, relocation, accommodation, food and medical expenses will be provided.

Interested candidates should urgently send a detailed resume of their qualifications and experience to: Chris Tinson, Lansdowne International Services Limited, 37 Golden Square, London W1R 4AL.

## DIRECTORATE OF FINANCE TRAINEE ACCOUNTANTS to £11,682 (pay award pending)

If you are looking for a career in local government finance find out what we can offer at Buxley.

You can take advantage of a planned training programme in a progressive office that makes full use of new technology. The programme will combine practical experience in all parts of the Finance Department with periods of study at a local college leading to membership of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy.

These posts are subject to the LMGS recruitment procedure. With this agreement, they are now being offered on an unrestricted basis. Applications are particularly invited from employees of the GLC and MCC.

If you want to find out more about this very diverse and rewarding career then telephone Mike Elmore on 01-303 7777, extension 407.

Application forms and further details can be obtained from the Director of Finance, Town Hall, 67th, Kent OAS 7TL. Tel: 01-303 7777, extension 407. Closing date: August 16, 1985.

## Bexley London Borough

To advertise in Futures  
the world of science and technology  
write or phone:

The Guardian  
Telephone Sales Department  
77-79 Farringdon Road  
London EC1R 3ER  
Tel. 01-430 1234

OR  
164 Deansgate  
Manchester M60 2RR  
Tel. 061-632 7200, ext. 2161

## CATCH 22

London based Employment Agency

Applications are invited for the following posts either in the West End or the City branch.

### CONTROLLER

Involve interviewing of applicants and the development of the secretarial business for both permanent and temporary vacancies. Opportunities are endless for the person with the right drive and entrepreneurial spirit.

### COMPUTER INPUT/ADMIN ASSISTANT

To provide back-up service to this expanding business.

### RECEPTIONIST

Typing, receiving applicants and answering phone. Self-motivated and commercial experience are essential although graduates with no previous experience will be considered. Our work atmosphere is unique in its relaxed and enjoyable character. Applicants must be able to work under pressure and accept responsibility. There must be no sales positions although it is essential that applicants are aware of the competitiveness of this business and have the ability to communicate with both companies and job applicants. Salaries will be competitive with relevant experience and you will be commensurate with a profit share scheme, with realistic targets and which reflects the contribution to the overall success of the business. Please contact Vicky Allen on 01-582 5122 04 hour service.

Catch 22 Catch 22 Catch 22 Catch 22 Catch 22

## MANPOWER FOR THE MIDDLE EAST

If your company needs manpower, such as labourers and tradesmen, for any purpose in the Middle East, we can help you select people from Pakistan. We are a government approved, licensed agency. Our representative is visiting England for 2 days. Contact Cathy Cox on: 01-498 5203.

## GREATER MANCHESTER MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY

### CURATOR (INDUSTRY)

Salary grade 302 - £10,404 - £11,025 pa (pay award pending)

Applications are invited from experienced professional engineers - preferably with museum experience. As a member of the management team the Curator (Industry) will be expected to contribute to the planning and development of the engineering and associated curatorial work of the museum. The postholder will also be responsible for directing the activities of a well-equipped workshop and a multi-disciplinary workforce. Further particulars and application forms are available from: The Personnel Officer, Liverpool Road Station, Liverpool Road, Manchester M3 4JH (01-602 2240), to be received by Tuesday 22nd August 1985.

### FREELANCE

EXPERIENCED DATABASE ANALYSTS AND PROGRAMMERS REQUIRED URGENTLY FOR IBM MAINFRAME CONTRACTS. CALL ADAM HUGHES AT QUOTEX TODAY ON 01-340 2148.

### CAPITAL APPTS.

PROGRAMMERS AND SYSTEMS ANALYSTS. Phone for free jobs list. Tel: 01-808 3050. Salaries to £16,000. 01-808 3050.

## Het Nederlandse Ministerie van Buitenlandse Zaken

hooftdeling Vertalingen (A/VTN), bureau Engels vragt

engeltalige vertaler (vrij)

overname 2 x 26 uur per week

vac.nr. 5-1840/2903

Functie-informatie: vertaler in het engels van hoofdzakelijk nederlandse teksten over een grote verscheidenheid van onderwerpen.

Verolat: moedertaal engels; universitaire of een hiernee vergelijkbare (taal)opleiding; een goed gevoel voor nuances (zowel in de moedertaal als in het nederlandse); een redelijke leesvaardigheid in het frans of duits; B.v.k. een goede kennis van nederlandse, zijn volk, geschiedenis en maatschappelijke structuur.

Standplaats: 's-Gravenhage.

Salaris: max. f 5221,- per maand (bij volledige werkweek).

Bij kandidaten van gelijke geschiktheid wordt aan een vrouw de voorkeur gegeven.

Bovengenoemd (bruto) salaris is in het algemeen afhankelijk van leeftijd, opleiding en ervaring en is exclusief 7,5% vakantie-uitkering.

Schriftelijke sollicitaties onder vermelding van het vacaturenummer (in linkerbovenhoek van brief en enveloppe) en uw huisadres met postcode, insenden voor 10 augustus 1985 en richten aan de Rijks Psychologische Dienst, Postbus 20015, 2500 EA 's-Gravenhage, Nederland. Een mededeling van ontvangst van uw sollicitatiebrief wordt u door het Ministerie toegezonden.

## INTERNATIONAL PLANNED PARENTHOOD FEDERATION

is a non-governmental organisation constituted of voluntary associations devoted to family planning and support programmes in over one hundred different countries, largely through its own affiliates. Applications are invited from suitably qualified applicants to work for the regional bureau for Africa, based in London, for:

### PROGRAMME ADVISER

To provide up-to-date analysis and interpretation of data/information on all aspects of the Africa region, including family planning, population, social, economic and political trends.

Candidates must have a degree preferably in social sciences together with three years' experience in field-related research, to include an in-depth knowledge of the region. Skills in evaluation, analysis and report presentation are required.

Salary: £12,728 p.a. together with other fringe benefits.

Please send G.V. and names of two referees by 8th August, 1985 to: Head, Personnel and Administration, IPPF, 16-20 Lower Regent, London SW1Y 4EP.

INTERNATIONAL PLANNED PARENTHOOD FEDERATION

## RESEARCH/RESEARCH AWARDS

### UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL RESEARCH IN NUCLEAR PHYSICS

#### C.A.S.E. AWARD

A SERC/CASE Studentship is available for a PhD course in Nuclear Structure Physics starting in September 1985. The research project is to develop very fast electronics with both Si and Ge photon detectors in use on current state-of-the-art spectrometers for Nuclear Structure Studies.

The award is sponsored by Link Systems Limited of High Wycombe who are currently expanding their interest in very fast analogue electronics and in the production of nuclear spectrometers. Experiments will be carried out at the 20MV heavy ion nuclear structure facility (INSL) at the Daresbury Laboratory, Warrington and exclusively at laboratory schools.

The techniques developed will be applied to studies of nuclei far from stability using the newly commissioned spectrometer at the INF and also in detection of Gamma Rays from nuclei decay at high spin states for the TRISA family of spectrometers.

The studentship will be for a period of 3 years plus a placement of 2500 on from Link Systems Limited. Applicants should have a first upper second class honours degree in physics or physics based subjects. Informal enquiries may be made to Dr J. F. Sharples on 01-527 1222, L25 3JH.

Applications, together with the names of two referees, should be received as soon as possible by The Registrar, The University, PO Box 147 Liverpool L69 3BX. Quota ref RV165.

### The University of Leeds DEPARTMENT OF PHYSIOLOGY POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOW

Applications are invited for the post of Postdoctoral Research Fellow in the Department of Physiology, Leeds. The post is for a period of 2 years, with a salary of £7,520 (under review) and a pension of £1,400 (under review). The post is for a full-time position and the successful candidate will be expected to contribute to the research programme of the Department.

A good honours degree in Physiology, Zoology or Anatomy and a PhD in a related field are essential. The successful candidate should also have postgraduate research experience in a relevant area. The post is for a full-time position and the successful candidate will be expected to contribute to the research programme of the Department.

Post available from October 1, 1985, for a fixed period of up to 2 years. Salary within the range £7,520 to £8,450 (under review) and a pension of £1,400 (under review). The post is for a full-time position and the successful candidate will be expected to contribute to the research programme of the Department.

Applications should be sent to Dr W. Wignall (Tel: 05341 4311) or Dr J. F. Sharples (Tel: 05341 4311). Closing date for applications: August 16, 1985.

Internal enquiries may be made to Dr W. Wignall (Tel: 05341 4311) or Dr J. F. Sharples (Tel: 05341 4311). Closing date for applications: August 16, 1985.

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### UNIVERSITY OF SALFORD DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL ENGINEERING

#### RESEARCH FELLOW

PSYCHOLOGIST TO INVESTIGATE ESTIMATORS' EXPERTISE

Applications are invited for a Research Fellow post on a 2-year fixed term basis in the Department of Civil Engineering, Salford University. The post is for a full-time position and the successful candidate will be expected to contribute to the research programme of the Department.

Applicants should have a doctorate and a background in psychology, with experience in the area of estimation. The successful candidate will be expected to contribute to the research programme of the Department.

Salary range £7,520 to £8,450 a year. USS benefits. Applications should be sent to Dr D. J. Houston, Tel: 01-595 4141, ext. 215. Closing date for applications: August 16, 1985.

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Friday July 25 1985  
Nancy Banks-Smith reports on the ones that got away  
Nasa's rogues in space  
9822

# Derek Malcolm reports from the Taormina festival What's Italian for hi Jack?

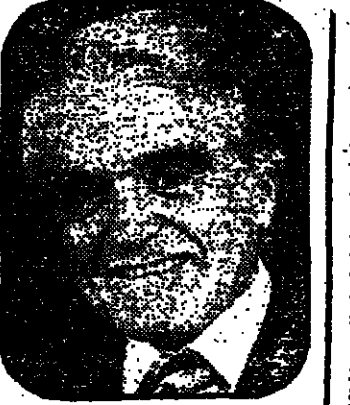
IT IS difficult to interest Sicilians in the latest manifestations of cinematic culture and at Taormina, one of the most sensational settings in the world for a film festival, they have at last given up the unequal struggle of trying to get 20,000 people or so into the open-air Greco-Roman theatre for the first feature of a Bulgarian director even the citizens of Sofia have never heard of.

Instead, though the competition for first and second features still goes on, and the winners do get into the theatre on the final night, Taormina has rented itself out to the Americans, whose film week, designed to do for Italy what the smart Deauville event does for France, holds increasing sway.

Jack Valenti, president of the Motion Picture Association of America, is here, proclaiming his Sicilian ancestry in speech after speech, and giving interviews at the poolside touting the latest waves of the healthiest industry in the world. He told one Italian journalist that Italy would do okay too if only it could make a film like *Cage Aux Folles* every year. The journalist did not dare point out that *Cage Aux Folles* was French.

Valenti's speeches are wonderful things, full of the kind of clichés which turn intended praise into veiled insults, and listening to them is almost as good as watching the bevy of stars he has brought along with him vying with each other to convince Sicilians that they are the finest people on earth, even if they haven't yet seen the faintest idea who Chuck Norris is.

Mr Norris, chunky and bejaunted, strode out on to the stage at the Teatro Antico, packed for the presentation of the television show celebrating the Italian film industry, to film awards, to the most eloquently deafening silence. But he grinned and bore it. Knowing full well that his action melodramas would soon reach the Italian market and almost certainly conquer it.



Jack Valenti - words of encouragement

Strangely enough, his latest is called *Code of Silence*, for which he has been hailed in America as the new Steve McQueen. Quite appropriately too, since the film is seriously close to McQueen's *The Hunter*, with Chuck virtually expressionless as a Mr Clean policeman shooting up the Chicago underworld.

The crooks appear to be Latin-Americans, but you never quite know when you see dubbed versions for Italy, because Italian-American hoods are invariably given another nationality so as not to offend the locals. It is not, however, true - according to Mr Valenti - that the Mafia were turned into Spaniards for *The Godfather's* release in Italy.

Easily the best of the other Hollywood movies on view in the American week was Susan Seidelman's *Desperately Seeking Susan*, which actually is defiantly anti-Hollywood but making sacks of money everywhere because of the presence of Madonna, flavour of the pop year so far.

The rest of the American product here is frightful - so bad, in fact, that one wonders where else it will be released. But no doubt poor old Britain will get it in the autumn so no names, no packdrill at the moment. Goodness knows what the Teatro Antico will think of it.

As for the festival proper, now relegated solely to Taormina's two tiny cinemas, A Private Function is pitching for England, and *Funerals*, the comedy much praised at Cannes, for Japan.

Perhaps the good outsider will be the New Zealand *Leave All Fair*, made by John Reid in France. This is about the last visit to France of John Middleton Murry, just about to publish a book about his wife, Katharine Mansfield, the New Zealand novelist.

He swans about playing the grand old literary gent, ever faithful to the memory of the young woman he encouraged to become a writer but is halted in his tracks by a young New Zealander who accuses him of deserting her but also of attempting to publish the very snippets of work she had asked to be destroyed.

John Gielgud plays Murry and Jane Birkin plays Katharine. The girl he meets after her death, Reid, who made *Beyond A Reasonable Doubt*, directs eloquently but it is Birkin rather than Gielgud one remembers. Hers is a fresh showing that if she is not cashing to give us as an actress too.



Shared experience - Annie Whittle, above, in *Trial Run*, and Mia Farrow, right, in *The Purple Rose Of Cairo*

## Tim Palleine reviews Woody Allen's latest, *The Purple Rose Of Cairo*, Sylvia and *Trial Run*

### Off-screen romance

WITH his freedom to dictate terms and his constant team of collaborators, Woody Allen has the nearest thing to complete control in the contemporary American cinema. Yet Allen's selection of material and treatment is consistent only in its capacity to take us by surprise.

Like the character he played in *Zelig*, he is a chameleon and in *The Purple Rose of Cairo* (Classic Haymarket, etc. PG) the chameleon act extends to Allen the actor disappearing behind the camera. As if in compensation, however, the leading man of *Purple Rose* (Jeff Daniels) is translated from the "imaginary" world of the screen to the "real" one of the audience and the world outside the theatre.

Where directors like Spielberg seem concerned with trying to recreate the cinema of half a century ago, Allen offers a comic well-partly comic) fantasia on its capacity to impose cultural domination. His new film is set in New Jersey during the Depression; its heroine (Mia Farrow) is the hard-done-by spouse of a drunken loafer and her sole pleasure in life is found at the local movie house - Cecilia is her name but cinephilia is her game.

A film which especially responds to, and goes over and over again, is *The Purple Rose Of Cairo*, a high-life comedy in which Gil Shepherd (Daniels) plays a featured role as pith-helmeted explorer Tom Baxter. Somehow, Cecilia's absorption in the movie causes Baxter to come alive, and he casually strolls off the screen to become her flesh and blood companion. The parallel



Sylvia in a scene from The Purple Rose of Cairo

world that the movies inhabit becomes palpable with gratification for Cecilia but comic disaffection for nearly every one else.

The cinematic originality of the premise tends to defy verbal analysis. There is the semantic topsyturvydom of Baxter's fellow characters being left stranded in mid-air by his defection, resorting to squabbling among themselves and with the understandably bewildered audience.

"Stay up there, don't panic," the theatre manager counsels the monochrome shadows, who become progressively more peevish at being unable to move on to the next scene where a decent meal awaits them. (The refinement of non sequitur may recall the time-warped conceit of the school visit in *Annie Hall*, where a succession of diminutive children gruffly identify their adult selves-to-be.)

Then again, there is the farcical predicament of the film's producers, who arrive on the scene in an attempt to recover the recalcitrant fragment of their imagination, dragging in their wake the aggrieved Shepherd (a spot-on lampoon of thespian narcissism), who conspires to defeat his celluloid alter ego by wooing Cecilia away from him.

But there is still a further level to the action. The encounter between Cecilia and the "fictitious" Tom, whose playboy propensity for high spending is curtailed by the discovery that his bankroll is only stage money, may be partly drawn in absurdist terms, yet still admits us into the domain of bitter-sweet comedy where, even if the situations are artificial, the feelings are real. The escape into an impossible romantic idyll surely stirs echoes of such bygone entertainments as *Roman Holiday*.

Admiration for the ingenuity and affection of *Purple Rose* does not altogether muffle apprehension that in its middle stretches the film seems to be pushing a single joke a bit too far there is, for instance, an essentially irrelevant interlude in which Tom is enticed into a bordello.

All the same, reservations tend to fade in the face of the conclusion. Here, with something very like audacity, Allen refuses the happy

more imaginative classroom methods.

The background - the muddy homies with its guarded attitudes, pub gatherings and rugby matches - is persuasively sketched; Sylvia (Eleanor David) and her sympathetic husband (Tom Wilkinson) are figures we can readily respond to.

Yet somehow Michael Firth's film, confidently assembled though it is, fails to catch dramatic fire. The presentation lacks that heightening and compression which might have let us experience the events as the heroine's rite of passage to becoming a writer and artist and to a clearer vision of the world. In the end what is left is a recounting of events which, however resonant by implication, seem inconsequential in effect.

By coincidence, a second New Zealand movie, *Melanie Reid's Trial Run* (Classic Oxford Street, 15) also treats of a woman in a remote rural predicament. In this case, though, the premise is more frankly commercial, and the protagonist (Annie Whittle), a wildlife photographer who rents an isolated cottage for professional purposes, is a contemporary variant on the frightened lady, prey to enigmatic rustics.

Stylish visuals and some atmospheric scene-setting help to compensate for a rather attenuated narrative. But the final explanation of the mysterious goings-on, vouchsafed in a mandatory twist ending, seemed to me not so much far-fetched as verging on the incomprehensible.

## BRIEFING

### Best Films

The Assam Garden (Academy). Impressive first feature by Mary MacMurray elegant and elegant but not so-centred.

The Life And Death Of Colonel Blimp (Electric Screen). Revival in new print of perhaps the most ambitious of the Powell-Pressburger films. Our Story (Lumiere). Delon and Baye in good form in odd but often intriguing black comedy.

Diary For My Children (Camden Plaza). Arresting if sometimes puzzlingly oblique impression of Hungarian Stalinism.

Amadeus (Minema). Forman's bold and frequently powerful opening-out of the celebrated play.

### Best On TV

Three Comrades (today, C4, 5 pm). Fluent and impressive version of the Remarque novel, partly scripted by Scott Fitzgerald.

The Ploughman's Lunch (today, C4, 9.30). Richard Eyre and Ian McEwan's bitingly funny, diamond-hard look at 1982 Britain and its media smart set.

Untamed Frontier (Saturday BBC-1, 11.15 am). Joseph Cotten lends strong presence to modest 1932 western, effective in routine way.

Night Has a Thousand Eyes (Saturday, C4, 3.40). Taut thriller with Edward G. Robinson as a man who can foresee the future, derived rather loosely from Cornell Woolrich novel.

Hustle (Sunday, BBC-2, 9.50). Downbeat Robert Aldrich crime story (1978), not among his best work but has its moments.

Passion (Monday, C4, 10.45). Latterday (1983) Godard meditation on art, filmmaking etc. hailed by some, exasperating to others.



Edward G. Robinson - Television today

TWO Guardian Lectures at the NPT this week: Jonathan Miller this evening, Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger on Sunday afternoon.

At Bridge Lane Theatre, Battersea, tomorrow at 11 pm there is a showing of *Sjostrom's He Who Gets Slapped* with live score performed by the Cine-Chimera Group.

Repertory at the Scala includes: Andy Warhol triple (Trash, Heat, Lonesome Cowboys) on Monday; at the Everyman, there is an RKO triple on Tuesday (Angel Face, Crossfire, The Hunchiker).

The Cambridge Film Festival continues until Sunday, when the closing film will be *Roeg's Insignificance*. Other movies showing here in the meantime include: *Desperately Seeking Susan* (tonight and tomorrow); *Godard's Hail Mary* (tonight and tomorrow); and *Purple Rose of Cairo* (tomorrow and Saturday).

Tim Palleine



Charles Bronson in *Death Wish* - the thriller format should be reclaimed

Raymond Williams on new ways of using cinema

## People's picture show

So large a part of our histories has been appropriated and falsified by enemy artists and producers, or by the indifferent who have conspired them to spectacle, that there is enough work, in that alone, for several generations of film-makers.

There is at least one other important area, which is particularly relevant to those of us who live, often ourselves making images, in what are called the advanced but actually the image-soaked societies. The process of image-making itself is now a major factor in consciousness and in gaining consciousness. Many people now see and know that they are being misrepresented by the media, but too few - and none of us all the time - really know how this happens. A merely sullen mistrust of contemporary stereotypes is at best defensive, and often disabbling.

In fact all the way through, from the simplest forms of labelling through plot manipulation and selective editing, to the deepest forms and problems of self-presentation, self-recognition, self-admission, there are processes of production in which we can intervene.

The deep images that preoccupy us are in one real sense our history. But in the practice of film, as also I think in the novel, there are available forms which are already parts of that long composition of the popular which is too easily dismissed as merely commercial art. Who, for example, could find a readier form for exploring misdirection - that concealment or contradiction of truths, from sharply opposed real interests - than the apparently known form of one kind of crime story spy story, thriller, investigative reporting?

That the truths commonly revealed or exposed by the usual mechanisms are arbitrary or trivial, or are safely plotted to arrive at the dangerous foreigner or rough or enemy agent, should not be seen as an obstacle.

The false hero who reveals all but actually reveals nothing - only his own presumed sharpness and the temporary restoration of what can pass for an order - is simply the accommodation of the form; he need not be and

investigator will come to know he is a participant as well as the idealised observer.

All the big things, just now are against us, but within what is not only a very powerful but also an exceptionally unstable social and cultural order there are forces moving of which nobody can predict the outcome. A strong and active co-operation of actual and would-be film and video makers is more alive and eager in what it is beginning and wants to do than in any earlier and perhaps more congenial time. The response to an action as evident and overwhelming as the coal strike is already, at this early stage, more encouraging in film and video than in any other of our arts.

Meanwhile the economy of cinema has radically changed, and in its coexistence with television and with new forms and institutions of distribution is now far from being the old monopoly, though the old and new oligopolists still hold most of the ground. Yet there it is only a few of the films that have been shown in this festival were made in simple supportive conditions. What socialist, anyway, would expect, in our sort of world, that it should be easier, for him or her, than for our brother and sister predecessors?

This is an edited extract from Professor Williams's Guardian Lecture, given as part of the NPT season, *Which Side Are You On? - An Investigation into Cinema and Socialism*.

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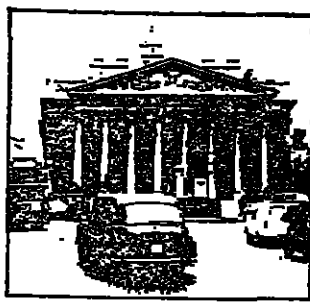
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# Foreign investments in South Africa count for less than its mineral wealth



## NOTEBOOK

Edited by  
Hamish McRae

THE financial markets have spent the last few days reassessing the political risks in South Africa.

So far, this reaction has been pretty much knee-jerk

stuff, witness the marking down of Barclays shares a couple of days back, or the sharp fall in the price of AEC. This will run on this familiar vein for a while, with new impetus coming from things like the freeze on all new French investment in South Africa, announced by M. Fabius yesterday.

Most of these knee-jerk reactions will be wrong, in that the actual exposure of many companies to South Africa is much more complex than a quick flip down an annual report would suggest.

Companies which tend to take stock in their involvement in South Africa often have relatively small exposure. Barclays or Standard Chartered are good examples. Both have gradually reduced the proportion of their business there, by a combination of reducing their interest in their local subsidiaries, and the building up of other aspects of their activities. Latin America is

much more important to Barclays than South Africa.

What the financial markets should be looking at is the way in which the detachment of South Africa from the Western financial and industrial system will affect the system.

It is an enormous subject but it is worth drawing attention here to the role of southern Africa as the principal supplier of strategic minerals to the West, and to the role of South Africa as the main gold and diamond producer. If, say, South Africa gets forced into the position of Ian Smith's Rhodesia, what then?

### Fan club

THE jump in the share price of Bowater plc yesterday following the news of Hanson's rising stake in the company shows that the fan club behind Hanson Trust is still working in its favour.

You would expect that for all the dark talk that Hanson has in the City jargon, gone "ex-growth", the fact remains that the group is sitting on the right issue: proceeds of half a billion and needs to make acquisitions to spend it.

The British end of Bowater, capitalised at around £250 million, might appear a trifle small to fit Hanson's needs; the US side of the group (which was demerged last year) is capitalised at close to £500 million and would seem a more appropriate size. But arguably the British end is relatively small, while the US is not.

Further, there is a management job to be done on Bowater UK. The present management is busy doing the usual sensible things, like waiting large parts of its headquarters in its back garden. But there is always a lag in perception between the act and the result. Revolutions happen

when things start to get better.

Besides, the whole idea that Hanson has to make one giant purchase may be a little naive. There is no reason why it should not make several smaller purchases, or indeed, like GEC with its modest interest in Distillers, simply buy a series of smaller interests in companies which it perceives the market has for whatever reason undervalued.

The logic of this is that as financial markets around the world become more and more obsessed by short-term performance, there is a role to be played by investors who can afford to take a longer view. And of course the fear of Hanson Trust is such that companies who see their shares being bought in this way either perform better (in which case the market rewards the shares), or present themselves as strong ducks for the takeover. It is a cat and mouse game in which the cat usually wins. At some stage, of course,

the forces which make it profitable for Hanson Trust to operate in this way will alter. A two year bear market would make it extremely difficult for Hanson Trust to continue its predatory ways. A collapse of the dollar would put a lot of pressure on the group.

There is a lot more head-scratching about Hanson now than a few months ago. But for the moment that rise in Bowater's price suggests that the market reckons there is a reasonable chance of a bid. You could perhaps go further and say that the share purchase only makes real sense if Hanson is going to do just that.

That is a perfectly reasonable reaction.

On balance a more immediate area of takeover activity may be round at TI, where Evered is clearly a strong contender. But it would be out of character for Hanson not to do something more at Bowater in the coming weeks.

### No packdrill

AFTER much prolonged and public agony, the stricken PCW names at Lloyd's are starting to get significant help from the market's authorities.

Peter Miller's letter showed that Lloyd's is prepared to bend over backwards to get names through the solvency test even if it still balances at giving them overt financial assistance.

It may fall short of what names want but it is important because if they can continue underwriting they can at least stand a chance of offsetting current losses with profits from other syndicates, and using PCW losses to offset tax on those profits.

The Miller initiative is also helpful because it suggests a growing commitment by Lloyd's hierarchy to solving the PCW problem. The first positive step was in setting up AUA (3) with independent directors to manage the three syndicates involved. But AUA needs

seeds. But AUA needs

Lloyd's is apparently prepared to support its remedies, including litigation, Peter Miller wants to help names over the hurdle of solvency so that both they and AUA—which has not yet even taken over formally from the old Richard Beckett Agency—have time to develop their rights of redress.

So far so good. But Lloyd's hierarchy will need all its powers of persuasion to make others easy in the cost of funding AUA's endeavours.

### Whoops

FINALLY, a word of thanks to the helpful banker who pointed out that we got the relationship between interest rates and forward rates wrong yesterday. Higher UK interest rates mean that the forward exchange rate is worse than the spot rate, not better. Ahem.

## Downward revision of order intake throws doubt on jobs and yards

# British Shipbuilders slashes losses to £26m

By David Simpson,  
Business Correspondent

British Shipbuilders revealed yesterday that it had slashed its trading losses in the year to March 31 from £159 million to £25.9 million, but that the future for the group, as a purely merchant shipbuilding group, remains bleak.

The group, which must sell off its profitable warship yards at the end of the present financial year, has enough merchant orders to see it through 1985 but is rapidly revising its order intake for future years downwards, throwing doubts on its ability to maintain its existing yards and workforce levels.

In its last year, warship yards earned £42.6 million before charges, compared with only £2.4 million the previous year. The merchant yards to

be retained within the state corporation lost £64.4 million, only marginally below the preceding year's £75.5 million deficit.

After other charges, including a £53.4 million further payment to Trafalgar House and other outside contractors in respect of losses on the BP ship being constructed by Scott Lithgow, prior to its acquisition by the private sector group, BS lost £106.5 million.

The total adjustments on the Scott Lithgow sale 18 months ago now come to almost £130 million, and an independent business, Mr John Barton, the senior partner of accountants Peat Marwick, is due to rule soon on a claim by Trafalgar for further compensation of £50 million. The costs of the settlement, however, are to be borne by the government,

rather than coming directly out of BS's own funding.

While BS exceeded its target of annual orders of 200,000 gross tons, gross tons needed to sustain its existing merchant shipbuilding capacity, last year, there are serious doubts over its ability to maintain this level of contracts, the corporation's chairman, Mr Graham Day, made clear.

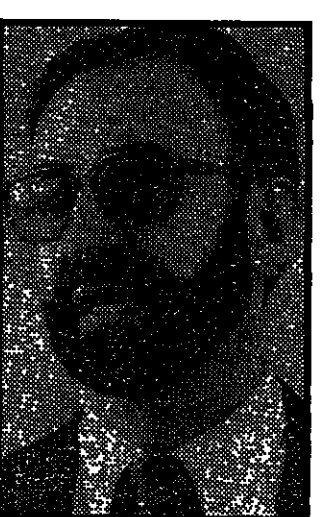
In 1985, the workforce at the merchant yards is expected to be cut by between 2 per cent and 3 per cent, but BS is amending its own budgets of an order intake of 200,000 cgt in the current year.

Mr Day said it was impossible to forecast by how much the group may fail to meet this target, but drew attention to the 20 per cent fall in shipbuilding orders placed internationally in 1984. Any significant

shortfall in order levels will leave yards out of work in 1986 and will inevitably lead to further redundancies in the merchant shipbuilding division's remaining 10,000-strong workforce.

All the merchant yards continued to operate in the red last year, and are likely to do so again this year. In contrast, the warship yards, presently being sold off to the private sector, recorded substantial profits from their Royal Navy shipbuilding activities.

Vickers, the nuclear submarine yard to be offered for sale in December, earned £17.7 million while Yarrow, sold to GEC in March for £34 million, made £8.5 million. Vosper Thornycroft, currently on the market, recorded a trading profit increase from £2.7 million to £11.9 million.



Graham Day

## Walkout by Iran at Opec meeting

From John Hooper  
in Geneva

THE Iranian minister attending Opec's conference here last night walked out of the talks as bitter wrangling continued over how to adjust the organisation's price structure.

According to a conference source, delegates had agreed by a majority of nine to four to accept a proposal for a cut in the average cost of oil by 50 cents and of medium grade by 20 cents when Sheikh Yamaal of Saudi Arabia insisted that the reductions should be bigger.

Shortly after the Iranian minister, Mr Mohammed Ghazali, strode from the conference hall he was followed by the ministers of Libya, Algeria, Gabon and Kuwait, apparently in an attempt to persuade him back to the negotiating table.

Iran, which refused to go along with Opec's last price compromise, is strongly opposed to any further reductions in average Opec prices. The problem facing the organisation here is how to adjust prices in such a way as to reflect the current pattern of demand, which is stronger for lighter crude than for heavier ones. Ever since Sunday the issue has been baffling a seven-member ministerial committee.

After three days of intermittent negotiations the best they have been able to do is to present three different options which were being debated by the full ministerial conference last night.

According to the Libyan minister, Mr Fawzi Shakhshuk, the three proposals are: cutting the price of heavy crude, lowering the price of heavy and raising the price of light by the same amount and, finally, reducing heavy by more than the increase in light. All three options referred to by delegates so far have been of 50 cents or less.

But even the first proposal, while sources said had the most support, would leave the average cost of Opec's crude well above that of the spot market, thus making it virtually impossible for member nations to offer their oil without suffering illicit discounts.

This in turn would lead almost certainly to production in excess of quotas as soon as demand picked up. Although the ministers spent most of Tuesday discussing how to tighten discipline within the organisation, no specific proposals have so far been announced.

## Healthy order book at Dowty

By Andrew Cornelius

DOWTY, the aerospace and defence equipment group, which started its financial year with a £453 million order book despite the continuing problems caused by the miners' strike and a damaging industrial relations dispute over new working practices in its British aerospace factories.

The figures came as something of a surprise to City, which had been expecting a worse report from the mining division and rather better news from the aerospace division. Dowty reported its results for the year to March 31.

Pre-tax profits jumped by 21 per cent to £44.2 million, helped by increased mining equipment profits of £8.9 million, against £6.1 million the previous year. Total group turnover was up from £402 million to £482 million. Sir Robert said that the 30 per cent increase in the group order book against the previous year meant that prospects were encouraging. The shares rose by 4p to 172p.

## Scramble to join SEAQ dealing service

By Margaret Pagano,  
City Correspondent

Demand for the Stock Exchange's recently launched SEAQ International is so great that a queue of market makers has rapidly built up to join the real-time share dealing service.

At least nine leading international and non-exchange members are waiting to join the service, which supplies investors with two-way prices in over 300 major international shares. Already 13 international dealer-makers, including outsiders like Bache Securities and Shearson Lehman Brothers — are using the system to give quotes in shares from around a dozen countries. The service uses the exchange's existing TOPIC network.

Exchange officials are working fast to expand TOPIC pages to include the hopeful, but carefully selected, entrants as quickly as possible. Talks have already taken place with Drexel, Burnham Lambert, Goldman Sachs, EBC, which provides an off-market service, and others.

The SE council's international markets committee met yesterday and confirmed the election of five practitioner members on to the committee. They include three representatives from the "external dealers" with Mr Michael Redgrave from Shearson, Mr Terry Hurley from Merrill Lynch and Mr Tony Marshall from Bache. County Bigsod International and Wedd International are represented by Mr

Rory Forrester and Mr Lionel

Mr Stephen Raven, committee chairman and a council member, said having outside practitioners was an important step towards giving non-exchange members a say in the government of the exchange. So far, he said, outsiders had not been deterred from joining the service by lack of detail over the potential costs and criteria for exchange membership.

He added one of the committee's first tasks would be to set up a code of practice to ensure a fair and orderly market for investor confidence and protection. Demand to use the service was encouraging and reinforced London's central market as a major player in international securities trading.

In several ways the code of practice, which will cover price dissemination and other details, will act as a prototype for the full range of SE domestic equities and gilts to be brought on stream in October next year. It should be drawn up by the autumn and will be incorporated in the exchange's rule book.

The change is still talking to Reuters over its plans for the rival Instinet dealing system but both sides hope that there can be cooperation rather than competition. Mr Raven added, "An alternative system will be of concern to the exchange but given serious consideration although we do, of course, believe in free competition." Instinet has said it plans to provide a US share price service in London.

## Names have cash for three years of claims

By Mary Brasier

THE troubled PCW syndicates at Lloyd's, where members have been asked to pay £60 million to meet massive losses, have enough cash to pay at least three years of claims, according to syndicate accounts which members will receive today.

The current cash position of syndicates 918, 940 and 157 is in sharp contrast to the £80 million estimate of future liabilities which led the syndicates' managers Richard Beckett Underwriting Agency (RBUA) to call on members for extra funds. It is likely to reinforce names' determination not to pay the £80 million cash call due next week.

The names who include the Duchess of Kent and Mr Adrian Khashoggi, received unexpected last-minute backing yesterday from Lloyd's chairman, Mr Peter Miller, who syndicates was good, names' liabilities would just accumulate. He said they would face a larger cash call next year.

provided they passed Lloyd's solvency requirements by next week. In a letter to names Mr Miller said that Lloyd's would stand behind personal stop loss insurance policies so that they would count as assets for passing solvency.

The validity of some policies arranged by PCW had been questioned, but according to Mr Miller, "People holding the policies can rely on any normal claim being met as if the contentious wordings were not present."

Most of the 1,500 PCW names, including those who face the largest bills of up to £500,000 each, have already passed the solvency test by pledging additional assets to Lloyd's or reducing their underwriting limit. Mr Graham Beckett, managing director of RBUA, said names had already passed the cash call and yesterday from Lloyd's chairman, Mr Peter Miller, who syndicates was good, names' liabilities would just accumulate. He said they would face a larger cash call next year.

## Hanson has 7pc of Bowater

By Mary Brasier

Hanson Trust has made its first strategic move since raising £519 million of cash for acquisitions via a rights issue last month. The group yesterday disclosed a 7 per cent stake in Bowater Industries, worth £18 million.

Bowater Industries is the British arm of the old paper and packaging business which demerged last year from the US newspaper interests. Hanson Trust director Mr John Pattison said that the share stake was just an investment and no decision had been taken on whether to increase the stake or what Hanson's future involvement with Bowater would be.

Bowater shares jumped 34p to 313p on news of the Hanson stake. Bowater said it was aware of a Hanson shareholding approaching 5 per cent but had had no contact with the group before Lord Hanson telephoned Dr Ingram Lenton, the Bowater chairman, to tell him of the holding.

Dr Lenton said he would resist a bid but "the motives and thoughts of Lord Hanson are his own. There is no sign at the moment he intends to go any further. We are treating this as an investment and are on a friendly but formal basis with them."

Hanson said that it had added to its earlier stake recently through open market purchases of Bowater shares. "We have shareholdings in a number of companies. As we get bigger this is likely to happen more."



Lord Hanson

## US eases hitech export rules

By Peter Large

THE United States yesterday introduced one concession into its long-standing row with Britain over US controls on hitech exports. The UK government welcomed it with reservations.

Under new licensing regulations, the US is no longer insisting that firms in Britain buying American computers should supply lists of their own customers to guard against strategic US equipment getting to the Soviet bloc. That demand led to suspicions of commercial secrets reaching firms' American competitors. But companies will still be asked to supply records of the movements of computers on request.

Mr William Archey, the US assistant secretary of commerce for international trade,

outlined the changes yesterday after a day of talks in London with trade department officials. But he refused to answer a question on whether the US would still insist on the right of its customs officials to make inspection visits to firms in Britain.

The Department of Trade and Industry, said the US administration was supposed to notify them of such visits before. The department welcomed the regulatory changes, which came into force yesterday, but added that they would mean an additional administrative burden on firms.

Mr Archey acknowledged that deadlock remained on the central issue of American insistence on "extra-territorial" rights. The UK says that the US is breaking international

law in claiming the right to check on movements of American computers in and from Britain.

Mr Archey said that "while we have agreed to disagree," regular talks continued on the practical issues in the front, candid way. He promised that future US reviews of its rules would take into account the general availability of hitech products, and he agreed that the real issue now was hardware.

In the new Cocom rules, under which the western allies control hitech exports to the eastern bloc, strategic categories of computer software are included among the embargoed items. The UK's version of the updates, regulations comes into force today.

## Honda 'won't be made in UK'

By David Simpson

THE most categorical assurance to date that the Japanese car maker, Honda, is not planning to set up a manufacturing or assembly plant in the UK was given yesterday by a senior Honda executive to the Commons all-party Trade and Industry Select Committee.

Mr Ray Horrocks, chief executive of BL's cars division, told the MPs that Honda, with which Austin Rover Group has established a strong collaborative arrangement, has no plans to manufacture independently in Britain. Honda's car manufacture in the UK will be confined to using ARG surplus capacity at Longbridge and

Cowley on the existing joint venture basis, Mr Horrocks told the committee.

The site which the Japanese group has purchased at Swindon will be used for engine testing and for the manufacture of components to be used in the Honda versions of the vehicles being jointly manufactured, or to be jointly manufactured in the future, at Longbridge. Mr Horrocks added.

Turning to the government's recent decision to allow the group to proceed with its £250 million investment plans in a new small to medium capacity engine, after initially blocking the expenditure proposal, Mr Horrocks said that it was more

economic for the group to make its own engine than to buy in from outside.

While the immediate capital spending requirements of developing the "K" engine would be greater, Mr Horrocks said, the real cost of producing an engine internally would be the same, and probably considerably less in the long-term than buying in from an overseas manufacturer such as Honda.

The new "XX" code-named executive car, to be manufactured in both Japan and the UK by Honda and BL beginning next year, will provide a long-term opportunity to re-enter the US market.

## MPs attack 'lack of gas strategy'

By Michael Smith,  
Industrial Editor

THE Government's inability to develop a coherent policy on the future of the gas industry is attacked today by an all-party group of MPs.

The MPs, members of the Commons Energy Committee, do not go so far as warning that the lack of strategy will harm the planned privatisation of British Gas, but the implication is clear.

In a special report on the industry, the MPs conclude: "We have made clear that we have failed to find evidence of

a coherent strategy for the development and depletion of the United Kingdom's gas resources."

The MPs say the Government should respond, preferably in the shape of a white paper, by setting out a framework for the development of the UK gas industry up to and beyond the year 2000.

"The nation's gas consumers, Parliament, the UK gas producers, the British Gas Corporation (and perhaps its prospective owners), our European partners and the committee itself will be paying

close attention to the seriousness with which the Government is prepared to face these issues," the MPs say.

In addition, the MPs are anxious that the Government should establish a sound regulatory body for the industry after the proposed privatisation in late 1986. "The Government must explain how it intends to ensure that the national interest is not damaged by the operations of a private corporation largely free of the restraining influences of competition," the MPs say.

## Taxing problems for the Revenue

By Margaret Dibben,  
Money Editor

THE human hearts beating with fear and anticipation at the Inland Revenue are out on their sleeves in the latest annual report. Will the computer come on stream in time? How can we stop the exodus of top staff? Will we ever catch up with the backlog of work? How can we improve efficiency?

The chairman of the Inland Revenue, Sir Lawrence Airey, has as many problems on his plate as any head of a multi-million pound organisation. And he also has his successes: collecting 98 per cent of PAYE tax due; and cutting staff numbers. His annual report for 1984 is

a touching document of strengths, weaknesses and illuminating facts. For example, the government's enthusiasm for oil taxes is explained: it costs the department £1 to collect just £17 of income tax outside PAYE but the same £1 cost rises to a £10,000 of special oil taxes.

Poor pay, limited prospects and an unattractive public image all contribute to the Inland Revenue's problem of losing a large number of experienced, trained inspectors, particularly in London and the South-east. The shortage of fully trained and experienced staff has meant a build up of arrears and what Sir Lawrence calls a "bad state of affairs."

He is "seriously concerned"

at the number of schedule E cases outstanding and unanswered post, although Schedule D assessments and corporation tax are more up to date.

Over at the collection offices there is a growing mound of uncollected arrears and PAYE underpayments due from employers. But, despite all this, the money is still getting through to the Exchequer. "The prime concern of collection was substantially safeguarded." This was achieved by concentrating limited resources on the large cases which produce the bulk of tax receipts.

Thus, if the small tax dodger stands a better chance of getting away with it, so too is the black economy sure of a

healthy future. An extra 850 staff are being put on to this between 1984 and 1988 and getting away with it so too is again the corporate tax dodger. It is harpener gibe Revenue's ability to seek out those "who should be paying tax but are not on our books and people who have undisclosed secondary income."

Success in criminal proceedings includes convicting an unprecedented nine for internal fraud, three for assaults on tax officers, 28 for false tax returns (two were acquitted) and 84 for stealing giro cheques.

This all adds up to income tax receipts of £38,246,158,799 from 20,500,000 people, counting married couples as one.

July 25, 1985



David Simpson on exchange rules that won't hurt holidays

## Labour's way to make the City pay for new jobs

THE LABOUR Party's plans for a new system of exchange controls are carefully geared to raising money to allow a socialist government to fund an industrial renaissance of its own design, without attacking the personal freedoms of the voter in the street.

In themselves, Labour's proposed indirect form of exchange controls are a simple channel to provide funding for British industry, and ultimately for the creation of real jobs within the country. The funding will be supplied through the intended credit institution, the National Investment Bank, which will be public sector owned.

Details of the NIB and its funding and lending policies, will be formally published next month in a document entitled "Investing in Britain" which together with a joint Labour-TUC policy document, "A New Partnership - A New Britain", will form the platform for the second stage of the party's pre-election campaign.

The Walworth Road officials, and the Shadow ministers co-ordinating the party's Jobs and Industry Campaign, including John Smith and Roy Hattersley, have shown their new-found electoral sensitivity by focusing their exchange control burdens almost entirely on the City financial institutions, the pension funds and the insurance

companies, which are simultaneously the main sources of new capital and politically acceptable targets for attack.

The income of the financial institutions is growing astronomically, with new funds of £168 billion pouring into the UK's pension funds and insurance companies in 1984 alone.

At the same time, the financial institutions have been criticised over the years from almost every possible direction for their lack of accountability, either in their investment performance or in their investment rationale.

Their failure to display any social accountability, Labour argues, has been more clearly illustrated than in the money they have pumped into overseas stock markets over the past six years, at a time when British industry has been starved of new investment and unemployment has reached unparalleled levels.

The total holdings in foreign stocks and shares of the pension funds, insurance companies, unit trusts and other financial institutions stood at some £22 billion at the end of 1983, the last date at which official figures are available, and they have certainly risen by a considerable amount in value since. There will be few voters who shed tears if the financial institutions are forced to in-



Out with old, in with the new. Shadow ministers Roy Hattersley and John Smith intend to make the pound fund British and not foreign industry.

vest in Britain to a greater extent.

But there will be no return, Labour is to make clear, to the restrictions of the Harold Wilson era when tourists could take only £50 a head out of the country. The last thing the party technicians wish to face is a headline in the Daily Mail accusing Labour of blocking workers' rights to buy a holiday home in the Algarve.

Labour is also a more realistic party today, on a number of other counts. One of these is the realisation that it is impossible to block the electronic transfer of money, and that any physical means of exchange controls, whether aimed at individual or institutional, would cost more than it could gain.

At the very worst, a formal umbrella regime of exchange controls along the lines of the system in opera-

tion before the Conservatives swept all currency transaction restraints out of the window in 1979, would endanger the activities of the City of London's capital markets, jeopardising jobs and the balance of payments.

Instead, Labour is rejecting sweeping doctrinaire measures to tread a finely balanced path which allows socialist principles to be imposed without offence to the changing social habits of the electorate, or to international financial esteem.

The practice of exchange controls will not involve the formal imposition of exchange controls but instead penalise those financial institutions — and in some cases individuals and multinational corporations — who invest a disproportionate part of their assets abroad.

Either way, the Labour Party argues, the British

economy will win. If the institutions refuse to repatriate the £20 million they have pumped into overseas stocks and shares since exchange controls were lifted in 1979, then their tax bills will rise sharply, providing a new injection of government funds to finance industrial growth and jobs creation.

A system of fiscal penalties to keep investment funds in the UK, of course, would be pointless if the additional available capital was simply pumped into the stock market, or into property.

Exchange controls, in the Labour philosophy, are not an end in themselves but a means to the real goal, a regeneration of manufacturing industry and a material reduction in unemployment.

Financial institutions are effectively to be means tested by a future Labour

administration, to determine whether they qualify for tax privileges.

Not only will they suffer if they have above possibly 5 per cent of their assets invested overseas, but they will incur penalties if less than a probable level of 10 per cent of their total assets is not invested in Labour's planned vehicle for industrial finance, the National Investment Bank.

The figures of 5 per cent and 10 per cent are well calculated. The cash which the institutions have carried abroad since the Tories came to power represents some 15 per cent of their total assets. Let them keep a third of this overseas without penalty, Labour argues, and the balance which they will be "persuaded" to remit will provide a suitable funding base for the NIB.

In other words, the same

fiscal penalties will apply to institutions which refuse to invest 10 per cent of their assets in the NIB. As most institutions have already taken advantage of the exchange controls abolition to pump a basic 15 per cent of their assets into foreign securities, few will have to switch from shareholdings in ICI or investments in property or agricultural land to funding the NIB, with the consequence that no existing sectors of the British economy are likely to be deprived of funding, real or speculative, which they might otherwise have expected.

Where the City and the existing lending institutions may be taken back in the terms of the funding the NIB will offer.

In the first place, as "Investing in Britain" makes clear, the NIB will be run on an accounting deficit which will be funded as a charge on the Treasury.

Behind this accounting deficit lies the entire rationale for the NIB and its funding mechanisms, through enforced institutional investment.

The bank will lend to industry on a preferential long-term basis, through loans in the main part but also through some element of equity funding. By preferential, the Labour Party means, in the most simplistic terms, that industry will be able to borrow money at rates which could be well below the prevailing commercial rates, but on a par, perhaps, with the real interest rates which overseas industrial competitors are charged for finance.

The deficit element arises because Labour has no intention of forcing pension funds and other financial institutions to pump their receipts into the NIB at uncommercial rates. The party hierarchy, while concerned about the influence and simultaneous lack of accountability of the financial institutions, also recognises that they must fund future pensions, insurance payouts, through a feasible investment policy.

The funds involved will be required to be invested in NIB loan stock which will

not only carry a rate of interest equal to parallel bills but will be guaranteed by the Bank of England.

This loan stock will serve a dual purpose. It can be used almost in the same way as existing government stock, to soak up new institutional receipts — current investment levels should produce approaching £2 billion each year to finance the NIB — but will also be employed to spread the expected short-term flow of repatriated overseas investment monies as funding instruments over a longer period.

In short, NIB loan stock will be issued on differing term bases, with institutions who bring back their foreign investments able to take up medium and long-term NIB bonds, whose redemption dates will be tailored to guarantee a steady flow of funding for the bank over the foreseeable future.

Ultimately, all these manoeuvres are designed to the single end of real job creation through industrial regeneration, with Labour switching the accent on industrial priorities from short-term profit, or capital gain, to longer-term investment and growth.

The NIB's loans will be geared to the borrower's ability, or willingness, to invest in research and development, to provide training facilities, and above all, to involve employees in a high degree of decision making.

A Labour government, in other words, on the party's own logic, will be able to fulfil indirectly many of its own fundamental socialist premises without overtly dictating to industry and commerce. It can also be seen to expand industry and create jobs on terms which are not interpreted as supporting "lame duck" enterprises but as subsidising British industry on comparable levels to the UK's main overseas competitors.

And, as no formal exchange controls are to be enforced, with tourists and industrial concerns allowed to invest freely overseas, no one will be able to blame the Labour Party for provoking a run on the pound when election year dawns.

## How an Austrian put purpose into Britain

Harold Lever reviews 'Crowded Hours', by Eric Roll (Faber, £15)

THESE LUCID and candid, but too brief, reminiscences of one of the most distinguished and respected figures in British public life make instructive reading.

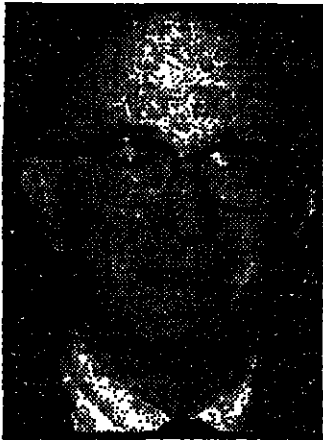
Eric Roll was born in 1907 in a village outside Czernowitz in the Bukovina, the meeting point of Austria, Russia and Rumania. His parents, who spoke little or no English shared the vast admiration then common in central and eastern Europe for all things English and, in particular, say in our political and cultural climate an inspiration for the whole of Europe.

This influence, which has never left him, led him in 1925 to study economics at Birmingham University. He seems to have been fortunate in all his teachers, among whom there was a strong preference for practical wisdom and a contempt for "schools" of economic theory and for the semi-theological passions of the "failed priests" who embraced them.

From his description of Birmingham, it is clear that he rightly retains a considerable respect and affection for the redbrick contribution to English university life and learning.

From Birmingham he went to Hull University as an assistant lecturer at the age of 24 and was promoted to a full professorship at the early age of 28. As a strong opponent of the disastrous period of appeasement of Hitler, he sympathised with radical thinking, and though he early recognised the inadequacies of simplistic left-wingery he has firmly retained the critical and humane values of his youth. At Hull University, too, that in 1934 he began his long and happy marriage with Freda Taylor.

In 1939 he went to study in the US and was there listed into service of the British Government, joining a remarkable band includ-



Eric Roll — laurels

ing Keynes to assist our war effort. He was thus able to see at first hand the US ability to undertake extremely large, quite unprecedented actions in which generosity of spirit and self-interest... played a balanced part.

This development in the US concept of its role as world power has played a decisive part in world affairs. Eric Roll's understanding of it and the need for a matching approach by other leading countries has consistently dominated his contributions to some of the most important international negotiations of the post-war period.

The parts of this book covering the years 1947-1964 document at many points Britain's failure to make its effective intellectual contribution to the modern world. He rightly sees that the central reason for this has been Britain's obstinate insularity and misplaced conservatism. There emerges a picture of Britain as a country ill at ease in the modern world — a Britain which has too often and in too many areas turned its rich inheritance into hampering negativities.

With the formation of the 1964 Labour Government Eric Roll was recruited to head the Department of Economic Affairs as Permanent Secretary. An attentive reading of these pages explains why the hopes, talents and enthusiasms that went into that Department proved futile. If reflection and coherence are to be injected into

British policy in the future, it has to be in ways which are compatible with our system of government as a whole and not by the use of a separate artificiality.

After leaving the Civil Service in 1966, Eric Roll joined Warrbury and later became its chairman and a non-executive director of the Bank of England. Among his many other activities was his membership of a Group of Five experts nominated by the Western world's leaders to study ways of dealing with the oil shock of 1974.

Here we have an Austrian boy, Czernowitz and Vienna educated, coming to our country without family or friends and with little money, to speak with the openness of British society that it readily embraced his talents and heaped upon him every kind of laurel in recognition of his great gifts.

But at many points, the Marshall Aid programme being a notable exception, we are left with disappointments, a sense of unused potential. Eric Roll has precisely that — international vision which alone can produce the pre-conditions for realistic national solutions of today's problems. But increasingly in the post-war period a mixture of insularity and national self-assertion has dominated and made impossible the achievement of our goals.

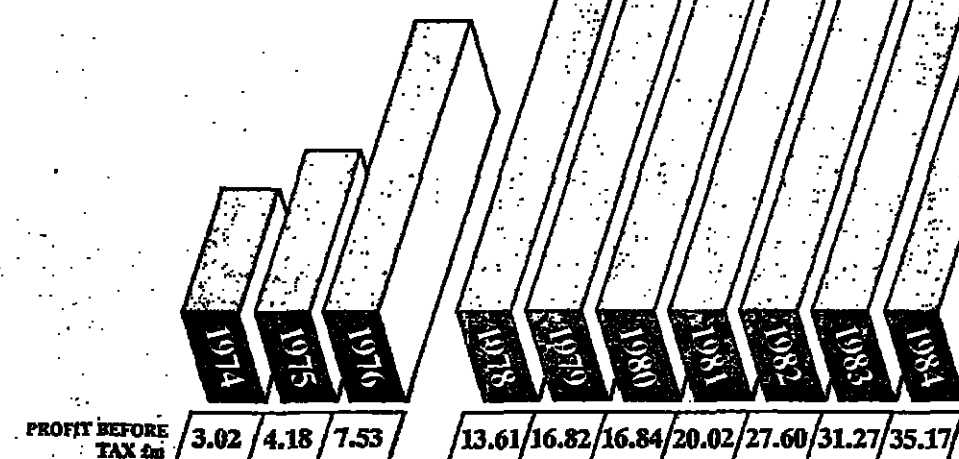
However, there is encouragement, too, in all this. This book records how a passion for this country was borne within many with longer attachments are too readily disenchanted. Eric Roll carries on with unabated fervour the long love affair with this country.

It records, too, how an immense and unshowy erudition can nourish practicality and how urbanity can support principle and purpose. Eric Roll's life appears to have been constantly enriched and stimulated by the friendship of like-minded men and women from many lands. We are entitled to hope that a new community of purpose is slowly coming into being which may make the world's future more promising than sometimes now appears.

Lord Lever is a former Labour Cabinet minister.

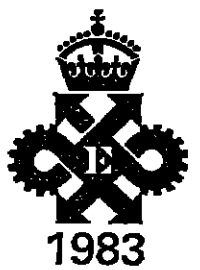
# BELL'S ESTIMATE ANOTHER YEAR OF RECORD PRE-TAX PROFITS IN 1985

Bell's confirm that Pre-Tax Profits for the year ended 30th June 1985 will be ahead of those for the year ended 30th June 1984.



Note: Years 1974 to 1976 inclusive are the twelve month periods to 31st December. Years 1978 onwards are the twelve months period to 30th June.

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1983  
The Queen's Award for Export Achievement

**STAY WITH THE WINNING TEAM REJECT THE GUINNESS BID**

## A hint of help for shipping

THE TRANSPORT Secretary, Mr Nicholas Ridley, yesterday for the first time, yesterday that government aid may be available for Britain's troubled shipping industry. He was speaking after publication of a consultants' report commissioned by the Department of Transport which warned that by 1992 significant reductions in the product tanker, bulk cargo and tug fleet could lead to shortages of these vessels in the event of a Falklands-type crisis.

Although there is no question of the government providing "general" aid for the shipping industry, Mr Ridley said it was possible that action would be taken to prevent shortages of particular types of vessel.

Government policy on the

strategic implications of the declining merchant fleet will be spelled out in more detail in the autumn. Any decision on providing financial aid to the shipping industry would come from the Ministry of Defence after consultation with the Department of Transport, Mr Ridley said.

News of the apparent softening of the government's hard line over refusing to provide financial incentives to help encourage new shipbuilding will be welcomed by the shipping industry.

However, Mr Ridley is adamant that there is little point in attempting to reverse the general decline in the size of Britain's merchant fleet.

Mr Ridley blames the decline in the British fleet on a combination of changing

trading patterns and changes in technology. A vital factor has been the change in oil trade since the advent of North Sea oil. Oil which was once imported to Britain from the Gulf now comes ashore through pipelines from the North Sea.

Stung by continuing criticism of the government's inertia when it comes to helping shipowners, Mr Ridley listed the areas where action is being taken to help the industry.

He said that negotiations within the EEC to provide a common policy on shipping and bring an end to protectionism within the Community would culminate in a new policy being agreed by the end of the year.

Andrew Cornelius



# Gifts galore, but no growth incentive



## INVESTMENT

Robin Stoddart

PRESENTATIONAL problems tend to beset all governments at half-term, and when their achievements do not boom loudly for them. Who is presenting what to whom is a more unusual bone of contention within the Tory ranks, however, important though it is to economic policy and performance.

High pay scales for the forces, lawyers and civil servants, along with record interest rates for savers, cannot generally be regarded as dynamic factors promoting economic growth. More obviously and rightly, those who create industry and jobs are recognised as having the first claim on the extra wealth that arises. They are, and far between at present. Some of the biggest increases in

remuneration have been awarded to the top brass in giant corporations that have shed thousands of jobs. Directors of established organisations newly freed from the Treasury yoke by the unprecedented privatisation programme have not lost much time in fundamentally reviewing their salaries either.

To do justice to Mrs Thatcher's firm belief in incentives, this was not entirely what she intended when the top rates of income tax were chopped back a fifth or more and some attractive concessions for small business creation were brought in. Her aim of freeing entrepreneurial spirits was bound to come up against some ingrained inertia and rigidities, and was always subject to a long time-lag.

King's ransom pay increases and gift packages for those nearing retirement provide little or no direct incentive for expansion and tend to ossify the management structure of companies. The lure and burden of large pensions also slows change. As the state earnings related scheme is strangled at birth, the disparity in retired persons' incomes becomes even more remarkable than that between the average and the higher earners still in employment.

The government may be realistic in seeking to depress the pay of unskilled and inexperienced entrants

to the manufacturing and service industries, though on the international comparisons that became popular among the higher echelons, at least while the pound was low, starting pay rates are rarely over-generous. Anything that encourages the acquisition of needed skills is economically commendable. But the belief that pay policy is less than even-handed and fair is politically damaging.

If two-thirds of voters and three-quarters of the electorate continue to believe that the government is on the wrong course right up to the next election then the downward potential of the stock market is deep indeed. The transfer of profits from the money supply has been an even more distinctive feature of recent years than the switch from low pay packets to higher salary packages. All that is not unexpectedly reaping its price in excessive pay claims from those still in employment in the better-insulated areas of activity.

Otherwise, the outlook for reducing inflation is again bright. Falling commodity prices, even excluding the effect of the rise in the pound, have partly offset the increase in home costs. Lower petrol and mortgage rates, plus the fall in the cost of this score by the end of the year. Certainly, the Chancellor now seems to be shedding his albatross of bad money supply figures and pointing to the strong pound as a green light for lower interest rates.

Gilt-edged stocks have got the message and gains of 3 per cent have been seen among longer-dated issues in recent weeks. By the same token, the attraction of index-linked issues has dimmed and they may be expected to make only minimal progress until it is more apparent that the government is bent on engineering the usual pre-election spending boom.

While simultaneous income tax cuts and higher public works spending might appear incompatible aims, the outperformance of the construction sector in an otherwise feeble share market may be at least as soundly based as the improvement in gilts. British Gas provides the lift for both areas. Selling off the country's most valuable remaining national asset will reduce the need for borrowing and provide the means for higher infrastructure spending. It is necessary to see a one-and-for-all gambit which will be paid for in lost revenue subsequently, but that may be someone else's problem.

Oil prices have entered a highly uncertain phase as the Opec producers increasingly go their separate ways. If the price fall steepens in dollar terms, it is likely that sterling will fall back against most currencies, perhaps including the dollar, again. With longer-term interest rates on the two main currencies more closely aligned at around 10 1/2 per cent than they have been for a long time, the international attrac-

tion of the London gilt-edged market may not prove much longer. Steady reductions in bank base rates could nevertheless continue and may be essential if the slow and intermittent industrial recovery is to continue.

Unless the fond belief that service sector growth can ensure healthy economic development is overtaken by the more realistic and responsible view that every other industrial country holds to, the boast that Britain is in some respects in the van of recovery will ring hollow after the tourist boom fades. If this was not appreciated before, the problems of the electronics sector and related high-tech revival of the motor industry because of weak exports should have driven it home.

There is little to be gained from exercises in trimming expenditure when the biggest defence outlays are regarded as sacrosanct and the biggest and most wasteful drain of all, unemployment and associated benefits, is not yet the subject of concerted macro and micro-economic action. In the circumstances, criticism that the government has failed to fulfil its pledges to reduce public sector spending is putting the cart before the horse.

Investors seeking the greater strength and security of overseas markets have so far seen most gains on the share swings dissipated on the currency roundabouts. This has applied to the inter-

nationally-oriented investment fund and unit trusts. In the lists of the former, however, bid approaches for two of the medium-sized funds, Murray Growth and Scottish National Investment Trust, have promised to inject more life. The same is happening in the United States with another move by a group of investors led by Mr Thomas Herzfeld for Growth Fund of Florida, a similar type of closed share capital fund.

As brokers Wood, Mackenzie point out in their latest review of the sector, insurance companies, which have some of the attributes of investment trusts, are looking lively again now that underwriting losses are finally being brought under control. The mighty Pru could well be a buy when most other investment areas are looking queasy.

As bigger and high-yielding privatisation offers begin to appear over the horizon, there seems little scope for a general equity market revival while there is clear danger of a prolonged bear market, depending heavily on the transatlantic situation. Privatisation in principle and practice has not been fair on the less wealthy. Handouts to foreigners and institutional investors have been to the longer-term detriment of the mass of the users of the assets and services sold. But it is better to choose to join in the game where possible and rewarding, rather than be dejected on the sidelines.

## Investors on sidelines ahead of ICI figures

### THE MARKETS

Despite an early attempt to continue Tuesday night's rally, stock markets had an extremely quiet session yesterday with activity in both equities and gilts kept to a minimum. By the close of trading on the market floor there were small gains recorded on the indices, but features were modest and scarce.

In the gilt market conventional prices were clipped by 1/8 of 100 over the pound loss ground, but even these falls were scattered. The index-linked issues firmed 1/4 to 1/2 on news that the government budget had exhausted the Treasury's 21 per cent 2015 at £251.

Equities managed to make a little progress but investor interest was lacking ahead of today's interim figures from ICI. There have been downgradings of profit estimates for ICI recently, mainly due to the weakness of the West German market against sterling and disappointing UK fertiliser results. Therefore, pre-tax profits in the second

at 123p. There were pickets of interest in the engineering sector, however. Profits of £44.5 million from Dowty Group, a 21 per cent increase on the previous year and above world estimates, helped the shares add 5p to 173p. Evered, part of a consortium which recently took an 11.6 per cent stake in T. Group, firmed by 7p to 250p. TI themselves reported by 8p to 327p, looking to the consortium to make a full-scale bid.

Stores made selective progress, as did builders, but rises were generally restricted to a few pence. Insurances were dull early on but subsequently came off the bottom. Banks were little changed, but the problems in South Africa, lost two to four dollars in the heavy weights.

Mixed movements among leaders rarely exceeded 3p in either direction, but 4p and 5p were supported at 365p, up 5p, Beecham, up 2p to 225p, were unaffected by the chairman's annual general meeting. ICI, however, was downgraded by 1p to 249p, reflecting their annual meeting on Tuesday. Freshwater, up 5p and 5p, Metal Box 433p, up 5p, were supported in front of today's meetings. Comment on expansion moves boosted Williams Holdings 5p to 311p.

Main changes: Dowty 173p up 5p. Evered 250p up 7p. T. Group 27p up 5p. Rascal 132p down 1p. A.E. 125p up 1p. ICI 288p up 3p. Extel 311p down 1p. Bowater 316p up 3p. T. Jourdan 122p up 5p.

Equity turnover for Tuesday: bargains, 15343, value £284,978 million. Tokyo: Despite an advance for the market's index, most stock prices softened in lacklustre trading. Nikkei Dow Jones Index 12,777.05 (12,762.83). Hong Kong: Most prices fell in moderate, technical trading. The Hang Seng index was down 8.22 points to 1665.63. Paris: Technical factors left stocks mixed to higher in cautious trading. The general market indicator, the CAC, with a gain of 1.8 per cent. Frankfurt: Prices drifted lower in dull trading. The Commerzbank index slipped 2.3 points to finish at 1403.5.

FT Ordinary Share Index of 43 at 256.4. Found: £1,398.6; D11 4.02; Fr 12.26; Gold: \$317.75. Account: July 15 to 26 FT All Share Index up 1.51 at 596.93. Sterling Index 84.1 (1978-100). ICI 226.4 (June) up 7 per cent on year.

## COMMODITIES

Copper: Cash £1,085 per tonne; three months £1,072 per tonne; five months £1,070 per tonne; Sept £1,070 per tonne; Oct £1,070 per tonne; Nov £1,070 per tonne; Dec £1,070 per tonne; Jan £1,070 per tonne; Feb £1,070 per tonne; Mar £1,070 per tonne; Apr £1,070 per tonne; May £1,070 per tonne; Jun £1,070 per tonne; Jul £1,070 per tonne; Aug £1,070 per tonne; Sep £1,070 per tonne; Oct £1,070 per tonne; Nov £1,070 per tonne; Dec £1,070 per tonne; Jan £1,070 per tonne; Feb £1,070 per tonne; Mar £1,070 per tonne; Apr £1,070 per tonne; May £1,070 per tonne; Jun £1,070 per tonne; Jul £1,070 per tonne; Aug £1,070 per tonne; Sep £1,070 per tonne; Oct £1,070 per tonne; Nov £1,070 per tonne; Dec £1,070 per tonne; Jan £1,070 per tonne; Feb £1,070 per tonne; Mar £1,070 per tonne; Apr £1,070 per tonne; May £1,070 per tonne; Jun £1,070 per tonne; Jul £1,070 per tonne; Aug £1,070 per tonne; Sep £1,070 per tonne; Oct £1,070 per tonne; Nov £1,070 per tonne; Dec £1,070 per tonne; Jan £1,070 per tonne; Feb £1,070 per tonne; 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Peter Large reports on a revolutionary rethink about huge centralised computers

## Airlines may scatter the security risk

AIRLINES need no longer fret about the deadly handshake. Therefore, before the 1980s, they might again be leading the way in establishing a new pattern of worldwide computer use that could affect the working lives of everyone.

For more than 20 years airlines have had huge central computer operations, which take passenger bookings from around the globe in single — though very fast — sequence. That central decision-making has been vital to dodge the deadly handshake.

The problem is this: a travel agent in Philadelphia books a seat from New York to London. It's the last seat on that flight tonight. Within the same minute an airport desk in Toronto books the same seat. Imagine that clash repeated a hundredfold in a web of interlocking bookings, some for journeys covering three flights by different airlines in different countries. Without central control, the result would be a chain of false decisions — deadly handshakes, in computing argot.

The costs of those central collections of top-speed mainframe computers are horrendous. British Airways alone spend £80 million a year on its computer operations.

If, instead, there were strings of smaller computers spread around the world, each doing its own thing but

constantly telling all the others what it was doing, then reservations could be confirmed more rapidly, security would be strengthened and the whole thing might be cheaper.

That has been possible in theory ever since the blossoming of the microchip in the 1970s cut both the cost and size of computers. Now the cost of telecommunications is also falling while capacity increases. Therefore, on the very day this week that British Airways formally opened a new computer centre at Heathrow — in which the computers alone cost £10 million — BA's computer bosses were happily speculating about the possibility of wholesale change.

On smaller scales this new way of operating — called distributed processing — is not new at all. Back in 1979, for instance, the British Army of the Rhine entrusted all its operational information to a "battlefront" network of 32 minicomputers, trundled about in trucks, installed in camouflaged tents, yet constantly talking to each other and constantly updating their common stocks of information.

But the airline business is a different kettle of fish. BA's new computer centre has seven big computers which together can handle 60 million instructions a second. That means up to 100 real-world transactions per second in holiday peaks, and



Contemplating the deadly handshake... breakfast in London, lunch in New York, baggage in Buenos Aires

demand is growing by more than 80 per cent a year.

Those computers communicate around the clock with 9,000 BA terminals in more than 60 countries and indirectly with 80,000 terminals of other airlines, making and checking bookings, calculating fares, issuing tickets, and checking in passengers.

The store of disk-held information required for that plus cargo consignment, flight planning, and operations control — is 130 billion characters, the equivalent of 6,000 London phone directories.

If despite that sort of weight the major airlines do begin to decentralise before the 1990s, then their decisions may again have ultimate impact on our daily lives.

In the 1980s the airlines were chief pioneers in using computers on a big scale to do "real time" work — instant decisions in flight bookings that have to interlock with hundreds of other transactions.

Nowadays that is commonplace in business, from banking to factory automation. But so far the parallel possibilities of distributed pro-

cessing have been slow to emerge.

Futurologists have long enthused about the argument that putting computing power on everyone's desk should diffuse control in government and business, giving branch offices deeper knowledge of the whole and greater autonomy.

But, in most instances, the real-world evidence so far is that big business is using the spread of international computer networks to strengthen central power rather than to relax it.

In discussing the possibility that the airlines might lead the way again, this time demonstrating that central control is not necessarily the most efficient way of using today's technology, both David Parry, BA's general manager of computer operations, and Keith Watts, its telecoms supremo, emphasised that BA had taken no decision yet.

Mr Watts said that if BA did centralise, the key motivation would be customer service — the possibility of completing a booking in a couple of seconds, be it at a Heathrow check-in desk or a travel agent's in Little Rock.

Nevertheless, the security aspect must be crucial too. The security problem of reliance on one central clutch of computers is five-dimensional — computer failure, telecoms failure (or strike?), flood,

fire, and so forth; malicious damage; and terrorist attack.

Those dangers are met at BA's new centre by duplication of resources and a security system that includes electronic identity passes and closed circuit TV. But Mr Watts acknowledged that in the end they depended on British Telecom to ensure their constant contact with the outside world.

Of course, if there were no one source of all the wisdom those problems would diminish. If, in a distributed system, the Hong Kong computers had a brainstorm, then New York, or London, or Amsterdam could take up the load: bookings everywhere could continue uninterrupted because the store of information on which those decisions were based would be on tap from all directions instead of in one vulnerable spot.

Furthermore, this could be done without each of dozens of local computers having to have at its right hand its own total duplicate of the constantly shifting state of play for all bookings everywhere. Those huge total databases could be regionally held but be on tap to all.

And if other multinational business moved that way, too, then the small-town manager and the front-desk clerk could find computers giving them a greater grasp on the action rather than a diminishing one.

Stephen Bierley on a London pot-pourri

## Viewing the alternatives



WORLD GAMES

LONDON may have failed to get the nomination as candidate for the 1992 Olympic Games, but as Birmingham basks in its unexpected glory the capital prepares to play host to the 1985 World Games, which begin tonight with the preliminary rounds of the roller hockey and end a week on Sunday with the football final.

Sandwiched in between come artistic roller skating, freestyle swimming, body building, and tug-of-war, together with 17 other sports to which the term "minority" might be applied. It is usually applied.

The Games will be the organisers' claim, the largest multi-sports event in London since the 1948 Olympics.

A pilot event was held in Santa Clara, California, four years ago and financially took a nasty nosedive. Until yesterday the current event had hardly caught the public's imagination.

Ticket sales have been, to quote one rather gloomy official, "pretty poor in general". Specifically they have been rotten, with one or two brave exceptions. Netball's advance sales have filled about a third of the seating at Crystal Palace National Sports Centre; most of the other sports have mustered 10 per cent or less; six swimming has attracted six — people, that is.

Lack of advertising has been blamed for the apparent lack of spectator interest. Tony Rudge, the director of the Games, is putting a brave face on it. We have concentrated our advertising on a local level. We are still in the process of actually explaining to people exactly what the World Games are all about.

None of the sports involved is on the Olympic programme, but the Games give an opportunity for each to project itself. Channel 4 will have a daily one-hour round-up, and syndication rights will win the likes of petanque and judo around the world. At times it seems sport saturates

everything, but television has an insatiable appetite.

The Games are controlled by the General Assembly of International Sporting Federations, and each sport must hold regular world championships. At least 20 nations from at least three continents — hard to envisage with some of these sports, but apparently true.

In fact, there could have been 40 or more nations in London: but for commercial reasons if nothing else, the Games had to be restricted. Indeed it took the intervention of Ryoichi Sasakawa, a Japanese industrialist, to pull the event off its rapidly-buckling knees. Mr Sasakawa and his Japan Shipbuilding Industry Foundation have kept it afloat, although it seems, at best, that the Games will do no more than break even.

Never mind, says Mr Sasakawa — patron and honorary chairman — says in the Games official programme: "I see the World Games as a source of inspiration... That is why the event has my support." Some might say that if you are prepared to take up such an event and lift it off its feet, you are looking for a little more than inspiration, but plans are already under way for the 1989 World Games. Frankfurt and Garmisch-Partenkirchen are interested, but Japan may yet get the vote.

Minority sports or not, the World Games are clearly going to be a lot of fun. At the last count 57 countries were due to take part, with a total of 1,700 competitors.

The majority of the events over the 11 days will be split between Crystal Palace, Wembley Conference Centre and the Barnet Copthall stadium, which for spectators is a bit of a puzzle. We have posed the usual travelling problems. The recent journey from a London terminus to the Cafe Royale was enough to persuade a couple of British Olympic Association delegates that Birmingham should have their 1992 vote.

Anyway, here they are in all their glory — the World Games. Contrary to rumour there will be no prizes for spectators who spot the sport within the first 10 minutes. But for those who fancy such as Sambo wrestling or Casting, this is your week.

### Where to see the action

WEMBLEY CONFERENCE CENTRE. Opening ceremony, tomorrow (2 p.m.). Powerlifting: tomorrow. Body Building: July 27-28.

CRYSTAL PALACE NATIONAL SPORTS CENTRE. Roller Hockey: Today-July 28. Speed Skating: Tomorrow.

28 Artistic Roller Skating: July 28-31. Karate: July 27-28. Life Saving: July 27-28. Fin Swimming: July 27-28. Trampoline: July 29-31.

Korfball: July 29-Aug 1. Sambo Wrestling: Aug 1-2. Netball: Aug 2-4. Taekwondo: Aug 3-4.

WIMBLEDON STADIUM. Speedway: July 30.

DAVID LLOYD CLUB, HESTON. Basketball: July 29-Aug 1.

BARNET CROFT HALL STADIUM/GROUND. Softball: Aug 1-3. Football: Aug 2-4. Casting: Aug 2-4. Pentathlon: Aug 3-4. Tug-of-war: Aug 3-4.

STEVENAGE BOWLING CENTRE. Ten Pin Bowling: Aug 2-4.

TOLMERS SCOUT CAMP, CUFFLEY. Field Archery: July 27-28.

PRINCES CLUB, BEDFORD. Water Skiing: Tomorrow-28.

For further information and times, phone (01) 676 0046.

David Frost

## Tourists warned off



Ces Blazey, chairman of the New Zealand Rugby Union, confirmed yesterday that plans for an unofficial tour of South Africa by 30 of the All Blacks had been scrapped because the High Court injunction against the All Blacks' official tour still applied to the new arrangement.

The All Blacks, who wanted to find a way of touring South Africa in spite of the injunction, and had hoped to go as private individuals, were called to Wellington and addressed by the legal advisers of the NZRU. They were told that if the players went to South Africa, even unofficially, they and the NZRU would be in contempt of court. Apparently the injunction, granted 10 days ago, holds good until the end of 1985.

Chick Henderson, chairman of the South African Barbarians, was the man who broke the news of an unofficial tour after his club issued the invitation to the All Blacks. Yesterday he said in Johannesburg that the tour would have proceeded along the originally planned itinerary.

The chairman of the South African Rugby Union, Danie Craven, who was reported by White SA Press Association to have "masterminded" the attempt to organise an unofficial tour, yesterday denied having done so. "Good gracious me no, I had no involvement," he said.

Meanwhile in Wellington yesterday the veteran All Black lock forward Andy Hogg, who had previously denied all knowledge of a private tour, confirmed that it had been called off just before the players were due to leave. "That's definitely the end of it," he said. Other senior members of the All Black team were unavailable for comment.

Richard Eaton on an historic experiment

## America's soft sell



THE international softball and American hardball versions of squash, separated by different rules and courts for nearly 80 years, are making a dramatic attempt to come together again. An inaugural

from October 17-20 will adopt the softball used in this country and the rest of the world, and marry it to the American one-point-rally system on a non-standard court one foot narrower than the international norm.

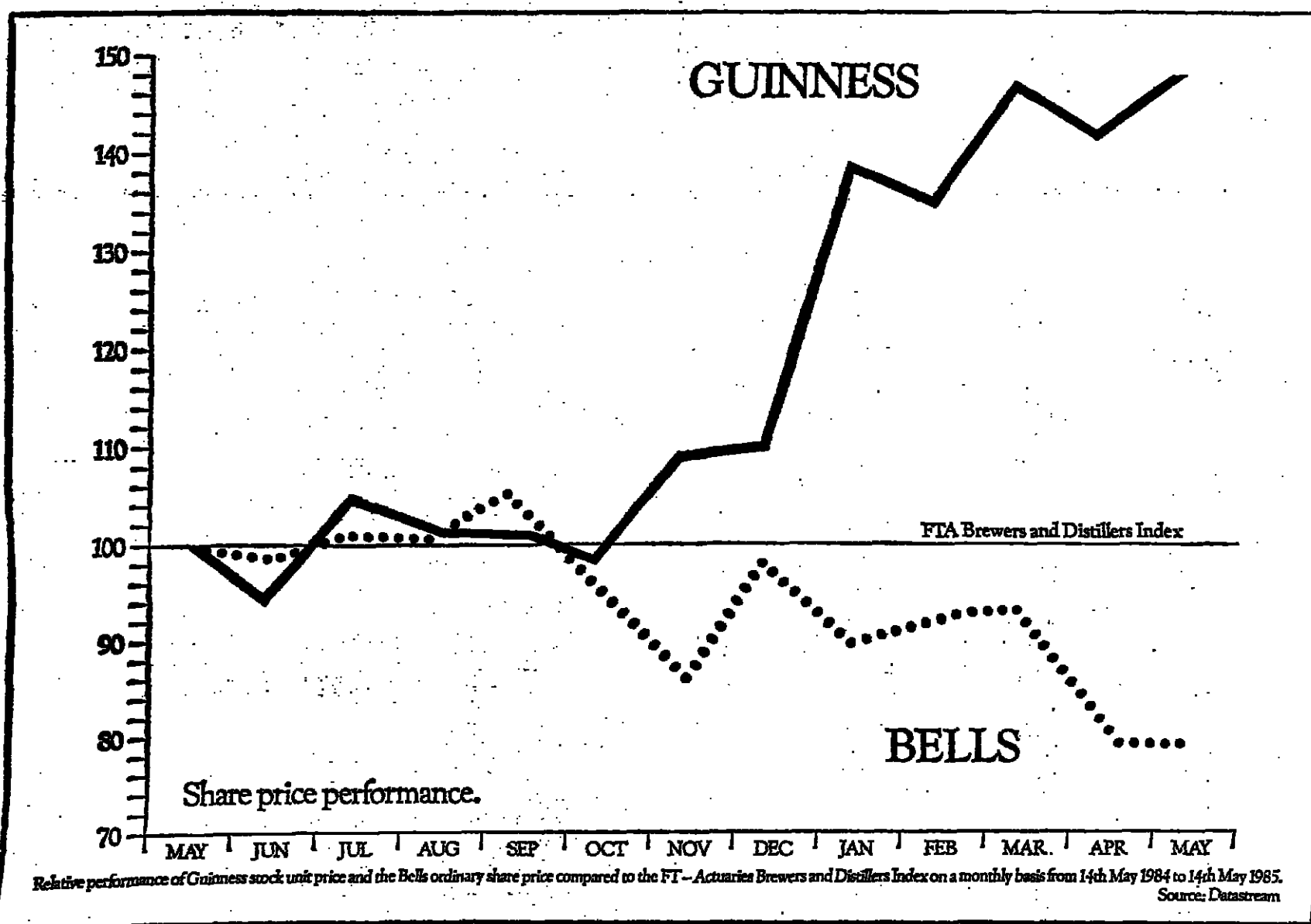
The occasion will mark the wide court. Softball squash first time an event approved courts are 21ft wide, while by the International Squash Players' Association has been narrower, with a lower play-

top 16 players have agreed to take part, and the tournament will offer \$25,000 in prize money.

This extraordinary experiment, which recently would have been quite unthinkable, has come about through the desire of the ISPA and of promoters to introduce softball squash into the vacuum created by the relative decline in America of racketball — another related sport but one which employs a different racket and court, and which at one time was hugely popular.

The US open will thus take place on a converted racketball court, constructed by moving the glass back-wall up to the 32ft mark on a 40ft-long, 20ft wide court. Softball squash courts are 21ft wide, while by the International Squash Players' Association has been narrower, with a lower play-

# WHO HAS THE BETTER SENSE OF DIRECTION?



Since 1980 Bells' share of the UK Scotch Whisky market has declined by 20%.

Overseas, Bells has also failed to achieve its promised inroads into the crucial US market.

By contrast, the Guinness Group has not only revitalised its core brewing business and established a second major profit source, Retailing, it has also developed a strategy of "Growth for Tomorrow" by investment in Healthcare and Publishing.

Both Bells' predicament and Guinness'

revitalisation have been recognised by the Stock Market as the graph, for May 1984 to May 1985, so vividly demonstrates.

Guinness record justifies the claim that it can steer Bells in the right direction. The market confidence in the considerable abilities of the Guinness management team should further enhance Bells' shareholders' confidence.

On 14th May 1985, before rumours of the Guinness bid, Bells' shares languished at 143p.

Bells' shareholders are not only being

offered a substantial premium over this price, they are being offered shares in an exciting, enlarged Guinness Group.

The growth prospects of this Group can only lead Bells' shareholders in one direction.

Towards accepting the very full offers made by Guinness.

## GUINNESS PLC

TRAUGHT AND BOTTLED GUINNESS, BARKER, LAGER, TRADITIONAL MALTIN THE NEWCASTLE LAGER, TELEVISION STORIES, CHAMPAGNE AND STOUT CASTLE HEALTH RESORTS, MATURE REST VITAMINS, GUINNESS PUBLISHING.

## Bells has lost its way. Guinness is good for Bells.



















